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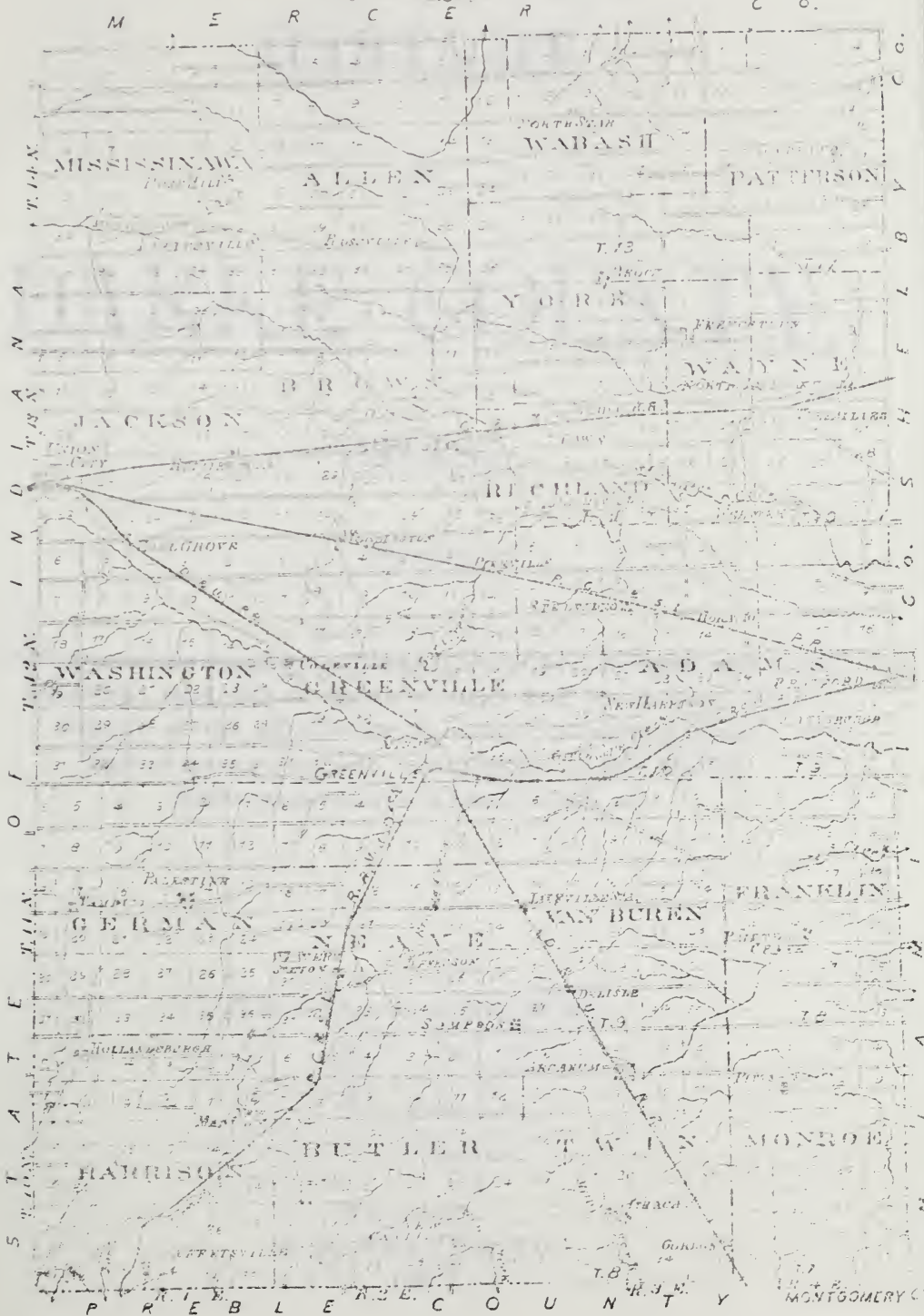


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MAP OF  
**DARKE COUNTY**  
**OHIO**







THE  
HISTORY  
OF  
DARKE COUNTY,  
OHIO,

CONTAINING

A History of the County; its Cities, Towns, etc.; General and Local  
Statistics; Portraits of Early Settlers and Prominent Men;  
History of the Northwest Territory; History of Ohio;  
Map of Darke County; Constitution of the United  
States, Miscellaneous Matters, etc., etc.

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ILLUSTRATED.

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## PREFACE.

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IN presenting this volume to the residents of Darke County, we have reason to believe that it will be in the hands of our friends. A friendly disposition was manifested toward our representatives during its compilation, and we trust the result of our labors may be in no sense a disappointment.

In this history, we have endeavored to record only facts, gleaned from the most authentic sources, and have been aided by efficient historians and those associated with the earlier rise and progress of the county to the present time. We have labored to introduce the reader to the wigwam of the red man, seat him by the hearthstone of the pioneers, to trace a history of the county's organization, and to faithfully represent the present condition of Darke County while entering the last decade but one of the nineteenth century. Ten years more would have made the record of many facts and incidents, which we present herewith, an impossibility. Memory is one of the faculties that first shows signs of decay, and, even among those of the "old guard" still living, another decade would have found many a link rusted out from their chain of recollections.

The general history of the county was compiled by Prof. W. H. McINTOSH, assisted by H. FREEMAN. The introductory chapter on "The History of Darke County" is from the pen of JOHN WHARRY, of Greenville, now the oldest resident of the town in which he has lived more than half a century—who was cotemporary, as elsewhere stated, not only with the settlement of that town and township, but with actors in events that preceded by many years the settlement of the town and county. When Mr. WHARRY was first requested to contribute a chapter to this work, his intention was to deal with the town and township of Greenville from its first settlement to the year 1840. But he has gleaned from earlier times, and advanced to a later period in his delineation of events and persons, all of which will be found interesting and valuable to our readers.

# REPORT

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The following report was prepared by the committee on the subject of the proposed new law, and is submitted to the assembly for their consideration. The committee has the honor to acknowledge the assistance of the various departments of the government, and the cooperation of the various officers and employees of the same, in the preparation of this report. The committee also wishes to express its appreciation to the various members of the assembly, who have assisted it in its work, and to the various officers and employees of the assembly, who have assisted it in its work. The committee has the honor to acknowledge the assistance of the various departments of the government, and the cooperation of the various officers and employees of the same, in the preparation of this report. The committee also wishes to express its appreciation to the various members of the assembly, who have assisted it in its work, and to the various officers and employees of the assembly, who have assisted it in its work.

## PREFACE.

We are indebted, for reliable data of war times to Capt. CHARLES G. MATCHETT, who had practical experience in many events of those stormy days; to Drs. JOHN E. and WILLIAM H. MATCHETT for important assistance rendered in the preparation of the history of the Medical Societies and other prominent points; to Prof. J. T. MARTZ for a carefully prepared article on Educational History; to Messrs. T. H. McCUNE and W. H. BIRELEY, who furnished valuable early church and religious data; to JOSEPH COLE for facts furnished for the history of Washington Township; to the officials of the county, the city officials, township officers and the citizens of Darke County generally.

We thus publicly take the liberty to express an appreciation of the kindness and unselfish interest that has been shown us in the preparation of a volume which we trust will meet the approval of our readers and add to their libraries a book of valuable reference.

THE PUBLISHERS.







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# THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY.

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## GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION.

When the Northwestern Territory was ceded to the United States by Virginia in 1784, it embraced only the territory lying between the Ohio and the Mississippi Rivers, and north to the northern limits of the United States. It coincided with the area now embraced in the States of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, and that portion of Minnesota lying on the east side of the Mississippi River. The United States itself at that period extended no farther west than the Mississippi River; but by the purchase of Louisiana in 1803, the western boundary of the United States was extended to the Rocky Mountains and the Northern Pacific Ocean. The new territory thus added to the National domain, and subsequently opened to settlement, has been called the "New Northwest," in contradistinction from the old "Northwestern Territory."

In comparison with the old Northwest this is a territory of vast magnitude. It includes an area of 1,387,850 square miles; being greater in extent than the united areas of all the Middle and Southern States, including Texas. Out of this magnificent territory have been erected eleven sovereign States and eight Territories, with an aggregate population, at the present time, of 13,000,000 inhabitants, or nearly one third of the entire population of the United States.

Its lakes are fresh-water seas, and the larger rivers of the continent flow for a thousand miles through its rich alluvial valleys and far-stretching prairies, more acres of which are arable and productive of the highest percentage of the cereals than of any other area of like extent on the globe.

For the last twenty years the increase of population in the Northwest has been about as three to one in any other portion of the United States.





## EARLY EXPLORATIONS.

In the year 1541, DeSoto first saw the Great West in the New World. He, however, penetrated no farther north than the 35th parallel of latitude. The expedition resulted in his death and that of more than half his army, the remainder of whom found their way to Cuba, thence to Spain, in a famished and demoralized condition. DeSoto founded no settlements, produced no results, and left no traces, unless it were that he awakened the hostility of the red man against the white man, and disheartened such as might desire to follow up the career of discovery for better purposes. The French nation were eager and ready to seize upon any news from this extensive domain, and were the first to profit by DeSoto's defeat. Yet it was more than a century before any adventurer took advantage of these discoveries.

In 1616, four years before the pilgrims "moored their bark on the wild New England shore," Le Caron, a French Franciscan, had penetrated through the Iroquois and Wyandots (Hurons) to the streams which run into Lake Huron; and in 1634, two Jesuit missionaries founded the first mission among the lake tribes. It was just one hundred years from the discovery of the Mississippi by DeSoto (1541) until the Canadian envoys met the savage nations of the Northwest at the Falls of St. Mary, below the outlet of Lake Superior. This visit led to no permanent result; yet it was not until 1659 that any of the adventurous fur traders attempted to spend a Winter in the frozen wilds about the great lakes, nor was it until 1660 that a station was established upon their borders by Mesnard, who perished in the woods a few months after. In 1665, Claude Allouez built the earliest lasting habitation of the white man among the Indians of the Northwest. In 1668, Claude Dablon and James Marquette founded the mission of Sault Ste. Marie at the Falls of St. Mary, and two years afterward, Nicholas Perrot, as agent for M. Talon, Governor General of Canada, explored Lake Illinois (Michigan) as far south as the present City of Chicago, and invited the Indian nations to meet him at a grand council at Sault Ste. Marie the following Spring, where they were taken under the protection of the king, and formal possession was taken of the Northwest. This same year Marquette established a mission at Point St. Ignatius, where was founded the old town of Michillimackinac.

During M. Talon's explorations and Marquette's residence at St. Ignatius, they learned of a great river away to the west, and fancied—as all others did then—that upon its fertile banks whole tribes of God's children resided, to whom the sound of the Gospel had never come. Filled with a wish to go and preach to them, and in compliance with a





request of M. Talon, who earnestly desired to extend the domain of his king, and to ascertain whether the river flowed into the Gulf of Mexico or the Pacific Ocean, Marquette with Joliet, as commander of the expedition, prepared for the undertaking.

On the 13th of May, 1673, the explorers, accompanied by five assistant French Canadians, set out from Mackinaw on their daring voyage of discovery. The Indians, who gathered to witness their departure, were astonished at the boldness of the undertaking, and endeavored to dissuade them from their purpose by representing the tribes on the Mississippi as exceedingly savage and cruel, and the river itself as full of all sorts of frightful monsters ready to swallow them and their canoes together. But, nothing daunted by these terrific descriptions, Marquette told them he was willing not only to encounter all the perils of the unknown region they were about to explore, but to lay down his life in a cause in which the salvation of souls was involved; and having prayed together they separated. Coasting along the northern shore of Lake Michigan, the adventurers entered Green Bay, and passed thence up the Fox River and Lake Winnebago to a village of the Miamis and Kickapoos. Here Marquette was delighted to find a beautiful cross planted in the middle of the town ornamented with white skins, red girdles and bows and arrows, which these good people had offered to the Great Manitou, or God, to thank him for the pity he had bestowed on them during the Winter in giving them an abundant "chase." This was the farthest outpost to which Dablon and Allouez had extended their missionary labors the year previous. Here Marquette drank mineral waters and was instructed in the secret of a root which cures the bite of the venomous rattlesnake. He assembled the chiefs and old men of the village, and, pointing to Joliet, said: "My friend is an envoy of France, to discover new countries, and I am an ambassador from God to enlighten them with the truths of the Gospel." Two Miami guides were here furnished to conduct them to the Wisconsin River, and they set out from the Indian village on the 10th of June, amidst a great crowd of natives who had assembled to witness their departure into a region where no white man had ever yet ventured. The guides, having conducted them across the portage, returned. The explorers launched their canoes upon the Wisconsin, which they descended to the Mississippi and proceeded down its unknown waters. What emotions must have swelled their breasts as they struck out into the broadening current and became conscious that they were now upon the bosom of the Father of Waters. The mystery was about to be lifted from the long-sought river. The scenery in that locality is beautiful, and on that delightful seventeenth of June must have been clad in all its primeval loveliness as it had been adorned by the hand of



Nature. Drifting rapidly, it is said that the bold bluffs on either hand "reminded them of the castled shores of their own beautiful rivers of France." By-and-by, as they drifted along, great herds of buffalo appeared on the banks. On going to the heads of the valley they could see a country of the greatest beauty and fertility, apparently destitute of inhabitants yet presenting the appearance of extensive manors, under the fastidious cultivation of lordly proprietors.



SOURCE OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

On June 25, they went ashore and found some fresh traces of men upon the sand, and a path which led to the prairie. The men remained in the boat, and Marquette and Joliet followed the path till they discovered a village on the banks of a river, and two other villages on a hill, within a half league of the first, inhabited by Indians. They were received most hospitably by these natives, who had never before seen a white person. After remaining a few days they re-embarked and descended the river to about latitude 33°, where they found a village of the Arkansas, and being satisfied that the river flowed into the Gulf of Mexico, turned their course





up the river, and ascending the stream to the mouth of the Illinois, rowed up that stream to its source, and procured guides from that point to the lakes. "Nowhere on this journey," says Marquette, "did we see such grounds, meadows, woods, stags, buffaloes, deer, wildcats, bustards, swans, ducks, parroquets, and even beavers, as on the Illinois River." The party, without loss or injury, reached Green Bay in September, and reported their discovery—one of the most important of the age, but of which no record was preserved save Marquette's, Joliet losing his by the upsetting of his canoe on his way to Quebec. Afterward Marquette returned to the Illinois Indians by their request, and ministered to them until 1675. On the 18th of May, in that year, as he was passing the mouth of a stream—going with his boatmen up Lake Michigan—he asked to land at its mouth and celebrate Mass. Leaving his men with the canoe, he retired a short distance and began his devotions. As much time passed and he did not return, his men went in search of him, and found him upon his knees, dead. He had peacefully passed away while at prayer. He was buried at this spot. Charlevoix, who visited the place fifty years after, found the waters had retreated from the grave, leaving the beloved missionary to repose in peace. The river has since been called Marquette.

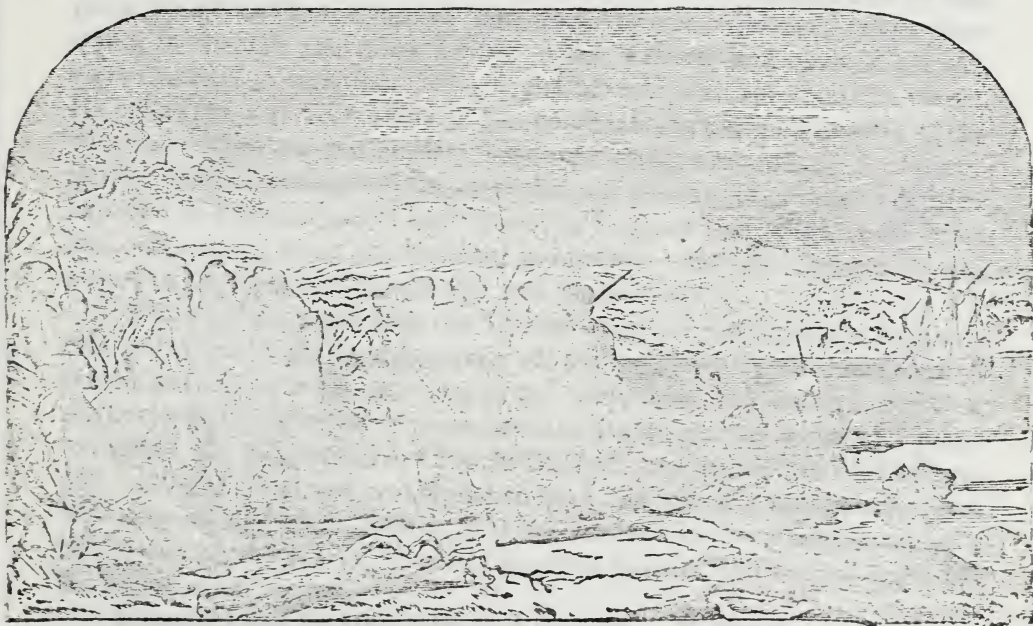
While Marquette and his companions were pursuing their labors in the West, two men, differing widely from him and each other, were preparing to follow in his footsteps and perfect the discoveries so well begun by him. These were Robert de LaSalle and Louis Hennepin.

After LaSalle's return from the discovery of the Ohio River (see the narrative elsewhere), he established himself again among the French trading posts in Canada. Here he mused long upon the pet project of those ages—a short way to China and the East, and was busily planning an expedition up the great lakes, and so across the continent to the Pacific, when Marquette returned from the Mississippi. At once the vigorous mind of LaSalle received from his and his companions' stories the idea that by following the Great River northward, or by turning up some of the numerous western tributaries, the object could easily be gained. He applied to Frontenac, Governor General of Canada, and laid before him the plan, dim but gigantic. Frontenac entered warmly into his plans, and saw that LaSalle's idea to connect the great lakes by a chain of forts with the Gulf of Mexico would bind the country so wonderfully together, give unmeasured power to France, and glory to himself, under whose administration he earnestly hoped all would be realized.

LaSalle now repaired to France, laid his plans before the King, who warmly approved of them, and made him a Chevalier. He also received from all the noblemen the warmest wishes for his success. The Chev-



alier returned to Canada, and busily entered upon his work. He at once rebuilt Fort Frontenac and constructed the first ship to sail on these fresh-water seas. On the 7th of August, 1679, having been joined by Hennepin, he began his voyage in the Griffin up Lake Erie. He passed over this lake, through the straits beyond, up Lake St. Clair and into Huron. In this lake they encountered heavy storms. They were some time at Michillimackinac, where LaSalle founded a fort, and passed on to Green Bay, the "Baie des Puans" of the French, where he found a large quantity of furs collected for him. He loaded the Griffin with these, and placing her under the care of a pilot and fourteen sailors,



LA SALLE LANDING ON THE SHORE OF GREEN BAY.

started her on her return voyage. The vessel was never afterward heard of. He remained about these parts until early in the Winter, when, hearing nothing from the Griffin, he collected all the men—thirty working men and three monks—and started again upon his great undertaking.

By a short portage they passed to the Illinois or Kankakee, called by the Indians, "Theakeke," *wolf*, because of the tribes of Indians called by that name, commonly known as the Mahingans, dwelling there. The French pronounced it *Kiakiki*, which became corrupted to Kankakee. "Falling down the said river by easy journeys, the better to observe the country," about the last of December they reached a village of the Illinois Indians, containing some five hundred cabins, but at that moment







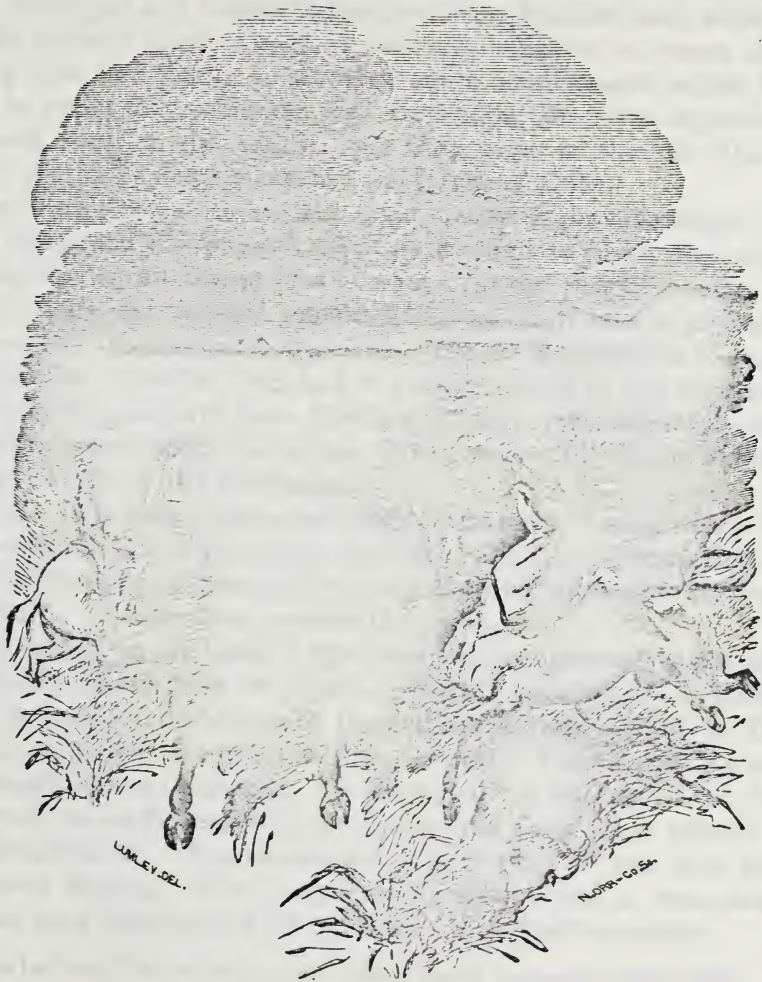
no inhabitants. The *Seur de LaSalle* being in want of some breadstuffs, took advantage of the absence of the Indians to help himself to a sufficiency of maize, large quantities of which he found concealed in holes under the wigwams. This village was situated near the present village of Utica in LaSalle County, Illinois. The corn being securely stored, the voyagers again betook themselves to the stream, and toward evening, on the 4th day of January, 1680, they came into a lake which must have been the lake of Peoria. This was called by the Indians *Pim-i-te-wi*, that is, *a place where there are many fat beasts*. Here the natives were met with in large numbers, but they were gentle and kind, and having spent some time with them, LaSalle determined to erect another fort in that place, for he had heard rumors that some of the adjoining tribes were trying to disturb the good feeling which existed, and some of his men were disposed to complain, owing to the hardships and perils of the travel. He called this fort "*Crevecoeur*" (broken-heart), a name expressive of the very natural sorrow and anxiety which the pretty certain loss of his ship, Griffin, and his consequent impoverishment, the danger of hostility on the part of the Indians, and of mutiny among his own men, might well cause him. His fears were not entirely groundless. At one time poison was placed in his food, but fortunately was discovered.

While building this fort, the Winter wore away, the prairies began to look green, and LaSalle, despairing of any reinforcements, concluded to return to Canada, raise new means and new men, and embark anew in the enterprise. For this purpose he made Hennepin the leader of a party to explore the head waters of the Mississippi, and he set out on his journey. This journey was accomplished with the aid of a few persons, and was successfully made, though over an almost unknown route, and in a bad season of the year. He safely reached Canada, and set out again for the object of his search.

Hennepin and his party left Fort Crevecoeur on the last of February, 1680. When LaSalle reached this place on his return expedition, he found the fort entirely deserted, and he was obliged to return again to Canada. He embarked the third time, and succeeded. Seven days after leaving the fort, Hennepin reached the Mississippi, and paddling up the icy stream as best he could, reached no higher than the Wisconsin River by the 11th of April. Here he and his followers were taken prisoners by a band of Northern Indians, who treated them with great kindness. Hennepin's comrades were Anthony Auguel and Michael Ako. On this voyage they found several beautiful lakes, and "saw some charming prairies." Their captors were the Isaute or Sauteurs, Chippewas, a tribe of the Sioux nation, who took them up the river until about the first of May, when they reached some falls, which Hennepin christened Falls of St. Anthony



in honor of his patron saint. Here they took the land, and traveling nearly two hundred miles to the northwest, brought them to their villages. Here they were kept about three months, were treated kindly by their captors, and at the end of that time, were met by a band of Frenchmen,



BUFFALO HUNT.

headed by one *Seur de Luth*, who, in pursuit of trade and game, had penetrated thus far by the route of Lake Superior; and with these fellow-countrymen *Hennepin* and his companions were allowed to return to the borders of civilized life in November, 1680, just after *LaSalle* had returned to the wilderness on his second trip. *Hennepin* soon after went to France, where he published an account of his adventures.





The Mississippi was first discovered by De Soto in April, 1541, in his vain endeavor to find gold and precious gems. In the following Spring, De Soto, weary with hope long deferred, and worn out with his wanderings, fell a victim to disease, and on the 21st of May died. His followers, reduced by fatigue and disease to less than three hundred men, wandered about the country nearly a year, in the vain endeavor to rescue themselves by land, and finally constructed seven small vessels, called brigantines, in which they embarked, and descending the river, supposing it would lead them to the sea, in July they came to the sea (Gulf of Mexico), and by September reached the Island of Cuba.

They were the first to see the great outlet of the Mississippi; but, being so weary and discouraged, made no attempt to claim the country, and hardly had an intelligent idea of what they had passed through.

To La Salle, the intrepid explorer, belongs the honor of giving the first account of the mouths of the river. His great desire was to possess this entire country for his king, and in January, 1682, he and his band of explorers left the shores of Lake Michigan on their third attempt, crossed the Portage, passed down the Illinois River, and on the 6th of February reached the banks of the Mississippi.

On the 13th they commenced their downward course, which they pursued with but one interruption, until upon the 6th of March they discovered the three great passages by which the river discharges its waters into the gulf. La Salle thus narrates the event:

"We landed on the bank of the most western channel, about three leagues (nine miles) from its mouth. On the seventh, M. de La Salle went to reconnoiter the shores of the neighboring sea, and M. de Tonti meanwhile examined the great middle channel. They found the main outlets beautiful, large and deep. On the eighth we reascended the river, a little above its confluence with the sea, to find a dry place beyond the reach of inundations. The elevation of the North Pole was here about twenty-seven degrees. Here we prepared a column and a cross, and to the column were affixed the arms of France with this inscription:

"Louis Le Grand, Roi de France et de Navarre, regne; Le neuvieme April, 1682."

The whole party, under arms, chanted the *Te Deum*, and then, after a salute and cries of "*Vive le Roi*," the column was erected by M. de La Salle, who, standing near it, proclaimed in a loud voice the authority of the King of France. La Salle returned and laid the foundations of the Mississippi settlements in Illinois; thence he proceeded to France, where another expedition was fitted out, of which he was commander, and in two succeeding voyages failed to find the outlet of the river by sailing along the shore of the gulf. On the third voyage he was killed, through the



treachery of his followers, and the object of his expeditions was not accomplished until 1699, when D'Iberville, under the authority of the crown, discovered, on the second of March, by way of the sea, the mouth of the "Hidden River." This majestic stream was called by the natives "*Malbouchia*," and by the Spaniards, "*la Palissade*," from the great



TRAPPING.

number of trees about its mouth. After traversing the several outlets, and satisfying himself as to its certainty, he erected a fort near its western outlet, and returned to France.

An avenue of trade was now opened out which was fully improved. In 1718, New Orleans was laid out and settled by some European colonists. In 1762, the colony was made over to Spain, to be regained by France under the consulate of Napoleon. In 1803, it was purchased by





the United States for the sum of fifteen million dollars, and the territory of Louisiana and commerce of the Mississippi River came under the charge of the United States. Although LaSalle's labors ended in defeat and death, he had not worked and suffered in vain. He had thrown open to France and the world an immense and most valuable country; had established several ports, and laid the foundations of more than one settlement there. "Peoria, Kaskaskia and Cahokia, are to this day monuments of LaSalle's labors; for, though he had founded neither of them (unless Peoria, which was built nearly upon the site of Fort Crèvecoeur,) it was by those whom he led into the West that these places were peopled and civilized. He was, if not the discoverer, the first settler of the Mississippi Valley, and as such deserves to be known and honored."

The French early improved the opening made for them. Before the year 1698, the Rev. Father Gravier began a mission among the Illinois, and founded Kaskaskia. For some time this was merely a missionary station, where none but natives resided, it being one of three such villages, the other two being Cahokia and Peoria. What is known of these missions is learned from a letter written by Father Gabriel Marest, dated "Aux Cascaskias, autrement dit de l'Immaculate Conception de la Sainte Vierge, le 9 Novembre, 1712." Soon after the founding of Kaskaskia, the missionary, Pinet, gathered a flock at Cahokia, while Peoria arose near the ruins of Fort Crèvecoeur. This must have been about the year 1700. The post at Vincennes on the Oubache river, (pronounced Wă-bă, meaning *summer cloud moving swiftly*) was established in 1702, according to the best authorities.\* It is altogether probable that on LaSalle's last trip he established the stations at Kaskaskia and Cahokia. In July, 1701, the foundations of Fort Ponchartrain were laid by De la Motte Cadillac on the Detroit River. These stations, with those established further north, were the earliest attempts to occupy the Northwest Territory. At the same time efforts were being made to occupy the Southwest, which finally culminated in the settlement and founding of the City of New Orleans by a colony from England in 1718. This was mainly accomplished through the efforts of the famous Mississippi Company, established by the notorious John Law, who so quickly arose into prominence in France, and who with his scheme so quickly and so ignominiously passed away.

From the time of the founding of these stations for fifty years the French nation were engrossed with the settlement of the lower Mississippi, and the war with the Chicasaws, who had, in revenge for repeated

\* There is considerable dispute about this date, some asserting it was founded as late as 1742. When the new court house at Vincennes was erected, all authorities on the subject were carefully examined, and 1702 fixed upon as the correct date. It was accordingly engraved on the corner-stone of the court house.



injuries, cut off the entire colony at Natchez. Although the company did little for Louisiana, as the entire West was then called, yet it opened the trade through the Mississippi River, and started the raising of grains indigenous to that climate. Until the year 1750, but little is known of the settlements in the Northwest, as it was not until this time that the attention of the English was called to the occupation of this portion of the New World, which they then supposed they owned. Vivier, a missionary among the Illinois, writing from "Aux Illinois," six leagues from Fort Chartres, June 8, 1750, says: "We have here whites, negroes and Indians, to say nothing of cross-breeds. There are five French villages, and three villages of the natives, within a space of twenty-one leagues situated between the Mississippi and another river called the Karkadaid (Kaskaskias). In the five French villages are, perhaps, eleven hundred whites, three hundred blacks and some sixty red slaves or savages. The three Illinois towns do not contain more than eight hundred souls all told. Most of the French till the soil; they raise wheat, cattle, pigs and horses, and live like princes. Three times as much is produced as can be consumed; and great quantities of grain and flour are sent to New Orleans." This city was now the seaport town of the Northwest, and save in the extreme northern part, where only furs and copper ore were found, almost all the products of the country found their way to France by the mouth of the Father of Waters. In another letter, dated November 7, 1750, this same priest says: "For fifteen leagues above the mouth of the Mississippi one sees no dwellings, the ground being too low to be habitable. Thence to New Orleans, the lands are only partially occupied. New Orleans contains black, white and red, not more, I think, than twelve hundred persons. To this point come all lumber, bricks, salt-beef, tallow, tar, skins and bear's grease; and above all, pork and flour from the Illinois. These things create some commerce, as forty vessels and more have come hither this year. Above New Orleans, plantations are again met with; the most considerable is a colony of Germans, some ten leagues up the river. At Point Coupee, thirty-five leagues above the German settlement, is a fort. Along here, within five or six leagues, are not less than sixty habitations. Fifty leagues farther up is the Natchez post, where we have a garrison, who are kept prisoners through fear of the Chickasaws. Here and at Point Coupee, they raise excellent tobacco. Another hundred leagues brings us to the Arkansas, where we have also a fort and a garrison for the benefit of the river traders. \* \* \* From the Arkansas to the Illinois, nearly five hundred leagues, there is not a settlement. There should be, however, a fort at the Oubache (Ohio), the only path by which the English can reach the Mississippi. In the Illinois country are numberless mines, but no one to





work them as they deserve." Father Marest, writing from the post at Vincennes in 1812, makes the same observation. Vivier also says: "Some individuals dig lead near the surface and supply the Indians and Canada. Two Spaniards now here, who claim to be adepts, say that our mines are like those of Mexico, and that if we would dig deeper, we should find silver under the lead; and at any rate the lead is excellent. There is also in this country, beyond doubt, copper ore, as from time to time large pieces are found in the streams."



MOUTH OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

At the close of the year 1750, the French occupied, in addition to the lower Mississippi posts and those in Illinois, one at Du Quesne, one at the Maunee in the country of the Miamis, and one at Sandusky in what may be termed the Ohio Valley. In the northern part of the Northwest they had stations at St. Joseph's on the St. Joseph's of Lake Michigan, at Fort Ponchartrain (Detroit), at Michillimackinac or Massillimacanae, Fox River of Green Bay, and at Sault Ste. Marie. The fondest dreams of LaSalle were now fully realized. The French alone were possessors of this vast realm, basing their claim on discovery and settlement. Another nation, however, was now turning its attention to this extensive country,



and hearing of its wealth, began to lay plans for occupying it and for securing the great profits arising therefrom.

The French, however, had another claim to this country, namely, the

### DISCOVERY OF THE OHIO.

This "Beautiful" river was discovered by Robert Cavalier de LaSalle in 1669, four years before the discovery of the Mississippi by Joliet and Marquette.

While LaSalle was at his trading post on the St. Lawrence, he found leisure to study nine Indian dialects, the chief of which was the Iroquois. He not only desired to facilitate his intercourse in trade, but he longed to travel and explore the unknown regions of the West. An incident soon occurred which decided him to fit out an exploring expedition.

While conversing with some Senecas, he learned of a river called the Ohio, which rose in their country and flowed to the sea, but at such a distance that it required eight months to reach its mouth. In this statement the Mississippi and its tributaries were considered as one stream. LaSalle believing, as most of the French at that period did, that the great rivers flowing west emptied into the Sea of California, was anxious to embark in the enterprise of discovering a route across the continent to the commerce of China and Japan.

He repaired at once to Quebec to obtain the approval of the Governor. His eloquent appeal prevailed. The Governor and the Intendant, Talon, issued letters patent authorizing the enterprise, but made no provision to defray the expenses. At this juncture the seminary of St. Sulpice decided to send out missionaries in connection with the expedition, and LaSalle offering to sell his improvements at LaChine to raise money, the offer was accepted by the Superior, and two thousand eight hundred dollars were raised, with which LaSalle purchased four canoes and the necessary supplies for the outfit.

On the 6th of July, 1669, the party, numbering twenty-four persons, embarked in seven canoes on the St. Lawrence; two additional canoes carried the Indian guides. In three days they were gliding over the bosom of Lake Ontario. Their guides conducted them directly to the Seneca village on the bank of the Genesee, in the vicinity of the present City of Rochester, New York. Here they expected to procure guides to conduct them to the Ohio, but in this they were disappointed.

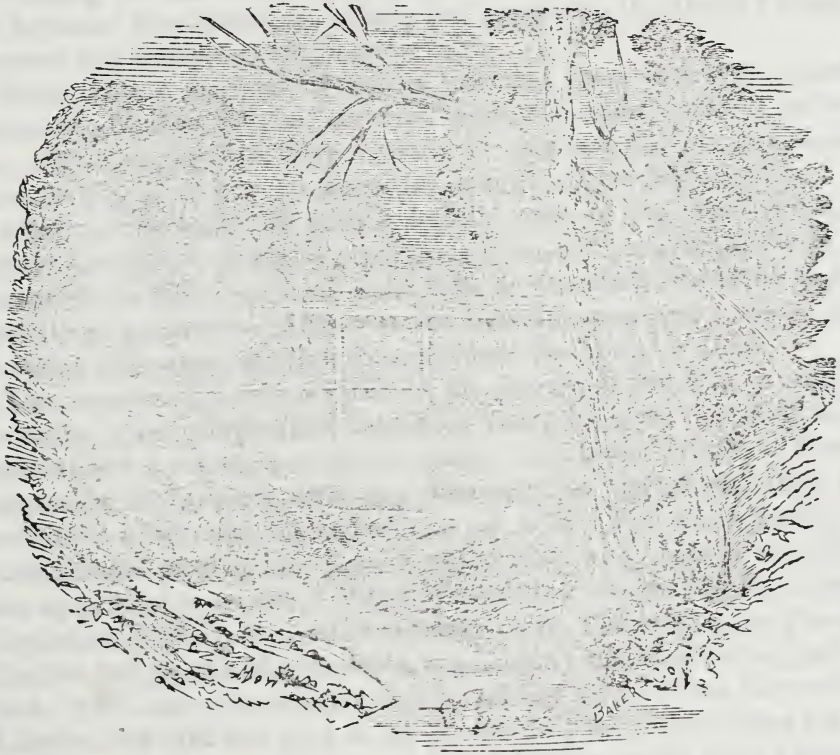
The Indians seemed unfriendly to the enterprise. LaSalle suspected that the Jesuits had prejudiced their minds against his plans. After waiting a month in the hope of gaining their object, they met an Indian





from the Iroquois colony at the head of Lake Ontario, who assured them that they could there find guides, and offered to conduct them thence.

On their way they passed the mouth of the Niagara River, when they heard for the first time the distant thunder of the cataract. Arriving



HIGH BRIDGE, LAKE BLUFF, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

among the Iroquois, they met with a friendly reception, and learned from a Shawanee prisoner that they could reach the Ohio in six weeks. Delighted with the unexpected good fortune, they made ready to resume their journey; but just as they were about to start they heard of the arrival of two Frenchmen in a neighboring village. One of them proved to be Louis Joliet, afterwards famous as an explorer in the West. He



had been sent by the Canadian Government to explore the copper mines on Lake Superior, but had failed, and was on his way back to Quebec. He gave the missionaries a map of the country he had explored in the lake region, together with an account of the condition of the Indians in that quarter. This induced the priests to determine on leaving the expedition and going to Lake Superior. LaSalle warned them that the Jesuits were probably occupying that field, and that they would meet with a cold reception. Nevertheless they persisted in their purpose, and after worship on the lake shore, parted from LaSalle. On arriving at Lake Superior, they found, as LaSalle had predicted, the Jesuit Fathers, Marquette and Dablon, occupying the field.

These zealous disciples of Loyola informed them that they wanted no assistance from St. Sulpice, nor from those who made him their patron saint; and thus repulsed, they returned to Montreal the following June without having made a single discovery or converted a single Indian.

After parting with the priests, LaSalle went to the chief Iroquois village at Onondaga, where he obtained guides, and passing thence to a tributary of the Ohio south of Lake Erie, he descended the latter as far as the falls at Louisville. Thus was the Ohio discovered by LaSalle, the persevering and successful French explorer of the West, in 1669.

The account of the latter part of his journey is found in an anonymous paper, which purports to have been taken from the lips of LaSalle himself during a subsequent visit to Paris. In a letter written to Count Frontenac in 1667, shortly after the discovery, he himself says that he discovered the Ohio and descended it to the falls. This was regarded as an indisputable fact by the French authorities, who claimed the Ohio Valley upon another ground. When Washington was sent by the colony of Virginia in 1753, to demand of Gordeur de St. Pierre why the French had built a fort on the Monongahela, the haughty commandant at Quebec replied: "We claim the country on the Ohio by virtue of the discoveries of LaSalle, and will not give it up to the English. Our orders are to make prisoners of every Englishman found trading in the Ohio Valley."

### ENGLISH EXPLORATIONS AND SETTLEMENTS.

When the new year of 1750 broke in upon the Father of Waters and the Great Northwest, all was still wild save at the French posts already described. In 1749, when the English first began to think seriously about sending men into the West, the greater portion of the States of Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota were yet under the dominion of the red men. The English knew, however, pretty





conclusively of the nature of the wealth of these wilds. As early as 1710, Governor Spotswood, of Virginia, had commenced movements to secure the country west of the Alleghenies to the English crown. In Pennsylvania, Governor Keith and James Logan, secretary of the province, from 1719 to 1731, represented to the powers of England the necessity of securing the Western lands. Nothing was done, however, by that power save to take some diplomatic steps to secure the claims of Britain to this unexplored wilderness.

England had from the outset claimed from the Atlantic to the Pacific, on the ground that the discovery of the seacoast and its possession was a discovery and possession of the country, and, as is well known, her grants to the colonies extended "from sea to sea." This was not all her claim. She had purchased from the Indian tribes large tracts of land. This latter was also a strong argument. As early as 1684, Lord Howard, Governor of Virginia, held a treaty with the six nations. These were the great Northern Confederacy, and comprised at first the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, and Senecas. Afterward the Tuscaroras were taken into the confederacy, and it became known as the SIX NATIONS. They came under the protection of the mother country, and again in 1701, they repeated the agreement, and in September, 1726, a formal deed was drawn up and signed by the chiefs. The validity of this claim has often been disputed, but never successfully. In 1744, a purchase was made at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, of certain lands within the "Colony of Virginia," for which the Indians received £200 in gold and a like sum in goods, with a promise that, as settlements increased, more should be paid. The Commissioners from Virginia were Colonel Thomas Lee and Colonel William Beverly. As settlements extended, the promise of more pay was called to mind, and Mr. Conrad Weiser was sent across the mountains with presents to appease the savages. Col. Lee, and some Virginians accompanied him with the intention of sounding the Indians upon their feelings regarding the English. They were not satisfied with their treatment, and plainly told the Commissioners why. The English did not desire the cultivation of the country, but the monopoly of the Indian trade. In 1748, the Ohio Company was formed, and petitioned the king for a grant of land beyond the Alleghenies. This was granted, and the government of Virginia was ordered to grant to them a half million acres, two hundred thousand of which were to be located at once. Upon the 12th of June, 1749, 800,000 acres from the line of Canada north and west was made to the Loyal Company, and on the 29th of October, 1751, 100,000 acres were given to the Greenbriar Company. All this time the French were not idle. They saw that, should the British gain a foothold in the West, especially upon the Ohio, they might not only prevent the French





settling upon it, but in time would come to the lower posts and so gain possession of the whole country. Upon the 10th of May, 1774, Vaudreuil, Governor of Canada and the French possessions, well knowing the consequences that must arise from allowing the English to build trading posts in the Northwest, seized some of their frontier posts, and to further secure the claim of the French to the West, he, in 1749, sent Louis Celeron with a party of soldiers to plant along the Ohio River, in the mounds and at the mouths of its principal tributaries, plates of lead, on which were inscribed the claims of France. These were heard of in 1752, and within the memory of residents now living along the "Oyo," as the beautiful river was called by the French. One of these plates was found with the inscription partly defaced. It bears date August 16, 1749, and a copy of the inscription with particular account of the discovery of the plate, was sent by DeWitt Clinton to the American Antiquarian Society, among whose journals it may now be found.\* These measures did not, however, deter the English from going on with their explorations, and though neither party resorted to arms, yet the conflict was gathering, and it was only a question of time when the storm would burst upon the frontier settlements. In 1750, Christopher Gist was sent by the Ohio Company to examine its lands. He went to a village of the Twigtwees, on the Miami, about one hundred and fifty miles above its mouth. He afterward spoke of it as very populous. From there he went down the Ohio River nearly to the falls at the present City of Louisville, and in November he commenced a survey of the Company's lands. During the Winter, General Andrew Lewis performed a similar work for the Greenbriar Company. Meanwhile the French were busy in preparing their forts for defense, and in opening roads, and also sent a small party of soldiers to keep the Ohio clear. This party, having heard of the English post on the Miami River, early in 1652, assisted by the Ottawas and Chippewas, attacked it, and, after a severe battle, in which fourteen of the natives were killed and others wounded, captured the garrison. (They were probably garrisoned in a block house). The traders were carried away to Canada, and one account says several were burned. This fort or post was called by the English Pickawillany. A memorial of the king's ministers refers to it as "Pickawillanes, in the center of the territory between the Ohio and the Wabash. The name is probably some variation of Pickaway or Picqua in 1773, written by Rev. David Jones Pickaweke."

\* The following is a translation of the inscription on the plate: "In the year 1749, reign of Louis XV., King of France, we, Celeron, commandant of a detachment by Monsieur the Marquis of Gallisoniere, commander-in-chief of New France, to establish tranquillity in certain Indian villages of these cantons, have buried this plate at the confluence of the Toradakoin, this twenty-ninth of July, near the river Ohio, otherwise Beautiful River, as a monument of renewal of possession which we have taken of the said river, and all its tributaries; inasmuch as the preceding Kings of France have enjoyed it, and maintained it by their arms and treaties; especially by those of Ryswick, Utrecht, and Aix La Chapelle."



This was the first blood shed between the French and English, and occurred near the present City of Piqua, Ohio, or at least at a point about forty-seven miles north of Dayton. Each nation became now more interested in the progress of events in the Northwest. The English determined to purchase from the Indians a title to the lands they wished to occupy, and Messrs. Fry (afterward Commander-in-chief over Washington at the commencement of the French War of 1775-1763), Lomax and Patton were sent in the Spring of 1752 to hold a conference with the natives at Logstown to learn what they objected to in the treaty of Lancaster already noticed, and to settle all difficulties. On the 9th of June, these Commissioners met the red men at Logstown, a little village on the north bank of the Ohio, about seventeen miles below the site of Pittsburgh. Here had been a trading point for many years, but it was abandoned by the Indians in 1750. At first the Indians declined to recognize the treaty of Lancaster, but, the Commissioners taking aside Montour, the interpreter, who was a son of the famous Catharine Montour, and a chief among the six nations, induced him to use his influence in their favor. This he did, and upon the 13th of June they all united in signing a deed, confirming the Lancaster treaty in its full extent, consenting to a settlement of the southeast of the Ohio, and guaranteeing that it should not be disturbed by them. These were the means used to obtain the first treaty with the Indians in the Ohio Valley.

Meanwhile the powers beyond the sea were trying to out-manceuvre each other, and were professing to be at peace. The English generally outwitted the Indians, and failed in many instances to fulfill their contracts. They thereby gained the ill-will of the red men, and further increased the feeling by failing to provide them with arms and ammunition. Said an old chief, at Easton, in 1758: "The Indians on the Ohio left you because of your own fault. When we heard the French were coming, we asked you for help and arms, but we did not get them. The French came, they treated us kindly, and gained our affections. The Governor of Virginia settled on our lands for his own benefit, and, when we wanted help, forsook us."

At the beginning of 1653, the English thought they had secured by title the lands in the West, but the French had quietly gathered cannon and military stores to be in readiness for the expected blow. The English made other attempts to ratify these existing treaties, but not until the Summer could the Indians be gathered together to discuss the plans of the French. They had sent messages to the French, warning them away; but they replied that they intended to complete the chain of forts already begun, and would not abandon the field.

Soon after this, no satisfaction being obtained from the Ohio regard-





ing the positions and purposes of the French, Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia determined to send to them another messenger and learn from them, if possible, their intentions. For this purpose he selected a young man, a surveyor, who, at the early age of nineteen, had received the rank of major, and who was thoroughly posted regarding frontier life. This personage was no other than the illustrious George Washington, who then held considerable interest in Western lands. He was at this time just twenty-two years of age. Taking Gist as his guide, the two, accompanied by four servitors, set out on their perilous march. They left Will's Creek on the 10th of November, 1753, and on the 22d reached the Monongahela, about ten miles above the fork. From there they went to Logstown, where Washington had a long conference with the chiefs of the Six Nations. From them he learned the condition of the French, and also heard of their determination not to come down the river till the following Spring. The Indians were non-committal, as they were afraid to turn either way, and, as far as they could, desired to remain neutral. Washington, finding nothing could be done with them, went on to Venango, an old Indian town at the mouth of French Creek. Here the French had a fort, called Fort Machault. Through the rum and flattery of the French, he nearly lost all his Indian followers. Finding nothing of importance here, he pursued his way amid great privations, and on the 11th of December reached the fort at the head of French Creek. Here he delivered Governor Dinwiddie's letter, received his answer, took his observations, and on the 16th set out upon his return journey with no one but Gist, his guide, and a few Indians who still remained true to him, notwithstanding the endeavors of the French to retain them. Their homeward journey was one of great peril and suffering from the cold, yet they reached home in safety on the 6th of January, 1754.

From the letter of St. Pierre, commander of the French fort, sent by Washington to Governor Dinwiddie, it was learned that the French would not give up without a struggle. Active preparations were at once made in all the English colonies for the coming conflict, while the French finished the fort at Venango and strengthened their lines of fortifications, and gathered their forces to be in readiness.

The Old Dominion was all alive. Virginia was the center of great activities; volunteers were called for, and from all the neighboring colonies men rallied to the conflict, and everywhere along the Potomac men were enlisting under the Governor's proclamation—which promised two hundred thousand acres on the Ohio. Along this river they were gathering as far as Will's Creek, and far beyond this point, whither Trent had come for assistance for his little band of forty-one men, who were





working away in hunger and want, to fortify that point at the fork of the Ohio, to which both parties were looking with deep interest.

“The first birds of Spring filled the air with their song; the swift river rolled by the Allegheny hillsides, swollen by the melting snows of Spring and the April showers. The leaves were appearing; a few Indian scouts were seen, but no enemy seemed near at hand; and all was so quiet, that Frazier, an old Indian scout and trader, who had been left by Trent in command, ventured to his home at the mouth of Turtle Creek, ten miles up the Monongahela. But, though all was so quiet in that wilderness, keen eyes had seen the low intrenchment rising at the fork, and swift feet had borne the news of it up the river; and upon the morning of the 17th of April, Ensign Ward, who then had charge of it, saw upon the Allegheny a sight that made his heart sink—sixty batteaux and three hundred canoes filled with men, and laden deep with cannon and stores. \* \* \* That evening he supped with his captor, Contrecoeur, and the next day he was bowed off by the Frenchman, and with his men and tools, marched up the Monongahela.”

The French and Indian war had begun. The treaty of Aix la Chapelle, in 1748, had left the boundaries between the French and English possessions unsettled, and the events already narrated show the French were determined to hold the country watered by the Mississippi and its tributaries; while the English laid claims to the country by virtue of the discoveries of the Cabots, and claimed all the country from Newfoundland to Florida, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The first decisive blow had now been struck, and the first attempt of the English, through the Ohio Company, to occupy these lands, had resulted disastrously to them. The French and Indians immediately completed the fortifications begun at the Fork, which they had so easily captured, and when completed gave to the fort the name of DuQuesne. Washington was at Will's Creek when the news of the capture of the fort arrived. He at once departed to recapture it. On his way he entrenched himself at a place called the “Meadows,” where he erected a fort called by him Fort Necessity. From there he surprised and captured a force of French and Indians marching against him, but was soon after attacked in his fort by a much superior force, and was obliged to yield on the morning of July 4th. He was allowed to return to Virginia.

The English Government immediately planned four campaigns; one against Fort DuQuesne; one against Nova Scotia; one against Fort Niagara, and one against Crown Point. These occurred during 1755-6, and were not successful in driving the French from their possessions. The expedition against Fort DuQuesne was led by the famous General Braddock, who, refusing to listen to the advice of Washington and those



acquainted with Indian warfare, suffered such an inglorious defeat. This occurred on the morning of July 9th, and is generally known as the battle of Monongahela, or "Braddock's Defeat." The war continued with various vicissitudes through the years 1756-7; when, at the commencement of 1758, in accordance with the plans of William Pitt, then Secretary of State, afterwards Lord Chatham, active preparations were made to carry on the war. Three expeditions were planned for this year: one, under General Amherst, against Louisburg; another, under Abercrombie, against Fort Ticonderoga; and a third, under General Forbes, against Fort DuQuesne. On the 26th of July, Louisburg surrendered after a desperate resistance of more than forty days, and the eastern part of the Canadian possessions fell into the hands of the British. Abercrombie captured Fort Frontenac, and when the expedition against Fort DuQuesne, of which Washington had the active command, arrived there, it was found in flames and deserted. The English at once took possession, rebuilt the fort, and in honor of their illustrious statesman, changed the name to Fort Pitt.

The great object of the campaign of 1759, was the reduction of Canada. General Wolfe was to lay siege to Quebec; Amherst was to reduce Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and General Prideaux was to capture Niagara. This latter place was taken in July, but the gallant Prideaux lost his life in the attempt. Amherst captured Ticonderoga and Crown Point without a blow; and Wolfe, after making the memorable ascent to the Plains of Abraham, on September 13th, defeated Montcalm, and on the 18th, the city capitulated. In this engagement Montcalm and Wolfe both lost their lives. De Levi, Montcalm's successor, marched to Sillery, three miles above the city, with the purpose of defeating the English, and there, on the 28th of the following April, was fought one of the bloodiest battles of the French and Indian War. It resulted in the defeat of the French, and the fall of the City of Montreal. The Governor signed a capitulation by which the whole of Canada was surrendered to the English. This practically concluded the war, but it was not until 1763 that the treaties of peace between France and England were signed. This was done on the 10th of February of that year, and under its provisions all the country east of the Mississippi and north of the Iberville River, in Louisiana, were ceded to England. At the same time Spain ceded Florida to Great Britain.

On the 13th of September, 1760, Major Robert Rogers was sent from Montreal to take charge of Detroit, the only remaining French post in the territory. He arrived there on the 19th of November, and summoned the place to surrender. At first the commander of the post, Beletre, refused, but on the 29th, hearing of the continued defeat of the





French arms, surrendered. Rogers remained there until December 23d under the personal protection of the celebrated chief, Pontiac, to whom, no doubt, he owed his safety. Pontiac had come here to inquire the purposes of the English in taking possession of the country. He was assured that they came simply to trade with the natives, and did not desire their country. This answer conciliated the savages, and did much to insure the safety of Rogers and his party during their stay, and while on their journey home.

Rogers set out for Fort Pitt on December 23, and was just one month on the way. His route was from Detroit to Maumee, thence across the present State of Ohio directly to the fort. This was the common trail of the Indians in their journeys from Sandusky to the fork of the Ohio. It went from Fort Sandusky, where Sandusky City now is, crossed the Huron river, then called Bald Eagle Creek, to "Mohickon John's Town" on Mohickon Creek, the northern branch of White Woman's River, and thence crossed to Beaver's Town, a Delaware town on what is now Sandy Creek. At Beaver's Town were probably one hundred and fifty warriors, and not less than three thousand acres of cleared land. From there the track went up Sandy Creek to and across Big Beaver, and up the Ohio to Logstown, thence on to the fork.

The Northwest Territory was now entirely under the English rule. New settlements began to be rapidly made, and the promise of a large trade was speedily manifested. Had the British carried out their promises with the natives none of those savage butcheries would have been perpetrated, and the country would have been spared their recital.

The renowned chief, Pontiac, was one of the leading spirits in these atrocities. We will now pause in our narrative, and notice the leading events in his life. The earliest authentic information regarding this noted Indian chief is learned from an account of an Indian trader named Alexander Henry, who, in the Spring of 1761, penetrated his domains as far as Missillimacnac. Pontiac was then a great friend of the French, but a bitter foe of the English, whom he considered as encroaching on his hunting grounds. Henry was obliged to disguise himself as a Canadian to insure safety, but was discovered by Pontiac, who bitterly reproached him and the English for their attempted subjugation of the West. He declared that no treaty had been made with them; no presents sent them, and that he would resent any possession of the West by that nation. He was at the time about fifty years of age, tall and dignified, and was civil and military ruler of the Ottawas, Ojibwas and Pottawatamies.

The Indians, from Lake Michigan to the borders of North Carolina, were united in this feeling, and at the time of the treaty of Paris, ratified February 10, 1763, a general conspiracy was formed to fall suddenly







PONTIAC, THE OTTAWA CHIEFTAIN.



upon the frontier British posts, and with one blow strike every man dead. Pontiac was the marked leader in all this, and was the commander of the Chippewas, Ottawas, Wyandots, Miamis, Shawanese, Delawares and Mingoes, who had, for the time, laid aside their local quarrels to unite in this enterprise.

The blow came, as near as can now be ascertained, on May 7, 1763. Nine British posts fell, and the Indians drank, "scooped up in the hollow of joined hands," the blood of many a Briton.

Pontiac's immediate field of action was the garrison at Detroit. Here, however, the plans were frustrated by an Indian woman disclosing the plot the evening previous to his arrival. Everything was carried out, however, according to Pontiac's plans until the moment of action, when Major Gladwyn, the commander of the post, stepping to one of the Indian chiefs, suddenly drew aside his blanket and disclosed the concealed musket. Pontiac, though a brave man, turned pale and trembled. He saw his plan was known, and that the garrison were prepared. He endeavored to exculpate himself from any such intentions; but the guilt was evident, and he and his followers were dismissed with a severe reprimand, and warned never to again enter the walls of the post.

Pontiac at once laid siege to the fort, and until the treaty of peace between the British and the Western Indians, concluded in August, 1764, continued to harass and besiege the fortress. He organized a regular commissariat department, issued bills of credit written out on bark, which, to his credit, it may be stated, were punctually redeemed. At the conclusion of the treaty, in which it seems he took no part, he went further south, living many years among the Illinois.

He had given up all hope of saving his country and race. After a time he endeavored to unite the Illinois tribe and those about St. Louis in a war with the whites. His efforts were fruitless, and only ended in a quarrel between himself and some Kaskaskia Indians, one of whom soon afterwards killed him. His death was, however, avenged by the northern Indians, who nearly exterminated the Illinois in the wars which followed.

Had it not been for the treachery of a few of his followers, his plan for the extermination of the whites, a masterly one, would undoubtedly have been carried out.

It was in the Spring of the year following Rogers' visit that Alexander Henry went to Missillimaenac, and everywhere found the strongest feelings against the English, who had not carried out their promises, and were doing nothing to conciliate the natives. Here he met the chief, Pontiac, who, after conveying to him in a speech the idea that their French father would awake soon and utterly destroy his enemies, said: "Englishman, although you have conquered the French, you have not







yet conquered us! We are not your slaves! These lakes, these woods, these mountains, were left us by our ancestors. They are our inheritance, and we will part with them to none. Your nation supposes that we, like the white people, can not live without bread and pork and beef. But you ought to know that He, the Great Spirit and Master of Life, has provided food for us upon these broad lakes and in these mountains."

He then spoke of the fact that no treaty had been made with them, no presents sent them, and that he and his people were yet for war. Such were the feelings of the Northwestern Indians immediately after the English took possession of their country. These feelings were no doubt encouraged by the Canadians and French, who hoped that yet the French arms might prevail. The treaty of Paris, however, gave to the English the right to this vast domain, and active preparations were going on to occupy it and enjoy its trade and emoluments.

In 1762, France, by a secret treaty, ceded Louisiana to Spain, to prevent it falling into the hands of the English, who were becoming masters of the entire West. The next year the treaty of Paris, signed at Fontainebleau, gave to the English the domain of the country in question. Twenty years after, by the treaty of peace between the United States and England, that part of Canada lying south and west of the Great Lakes, comprehending a large territory which is the subject of these sketches, was acknowledged to be a portion of the United States; and twenty years still later, in 1803, Louisiana was ceded by Spain back to France, and by France sold to the United States.

In the half century, from the building of the Fort of Crevecoeur by LaSalle, in 1680, up to the erection of Fort Chartres, many French settlements had been made in that quarter. These have already been noticed, being those at St. Vincent (Vincennes), Kohokia or Cahokia, Kaskaskia and Prairie du Rocher, on the American Bottom. a large tract of rich alluvial soil in Illinois, on the Mississippi, opposite the site of St. Louis.

By the treaty of Paris, the regions east of the Mississippi, including all these and other towns of the Northwest, were given over to England; but they do not appear to have been taken possession of until 1765, when Captain Stirling, in the name of the Majesty of England, established himself at Fort Chartres bearing with him the proclamation of General Gage, dated December 30, 1764, which promised religious freedom to all Catholics who worshiped here, and a right to leave the country with their effects if they wished, or to remain with the privileges of Englishmen. It was shortly after the occupancy of the West by the British that the war with Pontiac opened. It is already noticed in the sketch of that chieftain. By it many a Briton lost his life, and many a frontier settle-

about half a century ago, and very recently, I am permitted to say, the medical profession has been able to do much more for the patient than it has ever done before. The progress of medicine has been rapid, and the results have been most successful. The patient is now able to live longer, and to live more comfortably, than he has ever done before. The medical profession has been able to do much more for the patient than it has ever done before.

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ment in its infancy ceased to exist. This was not ended until the year 1764, when, failing to capture Detroit, Niagara and Fort Pitt, his confederacy became disheartened, and, receiving no aid from the French. Pontiac abandoned the enterprise and departed to the Illinois, among whom he afterward lost his life.

As soon as these difficulties were definitely settled, settlers began rapidly to survey the country and prepare for occupation. During the year 1770, a number of persons from Virginia and other British provinces explored and marked out nearly all the valuable lands on the Monongahela and along the banks of the Ohio as far as the Little Kanawha. This was followed by another exploring expedition, in which George Washington was a party. The latter, accompanied by Dr. Craik, Capt. Crawford and others, on the 20th of October, 1770, descended the Ohio from Pittsburgh to the mouth of the Kanawha; ascended that stream about fourteen miles, marked out several large tracts of land, shot several buffalo, which were then abundant in the Ohio Valley, and returned to the fort.

Pittsburgh was at this time a trading post, about which was clustered a village of some twenty houses, inhabited by Indian traders. This same year, Capt. Pittman visited Kaskaskia and its neighboring villages. He found there about sixty-five resident families, and at Cahokia only forty-five dwellings. At Fort Chartres was another small settlement, and at Detroit the garrison were quite prosperous and strong. For a year or two settlers continued to locate near some of these posts, generally Fort Pitt or Detroit, owing to the fears of the Indians, who still maintained some feelings of hatred to the English. The trade from the posts was quite good, and from those in Illinois large quantities of pork and flour found their way to the New Orleans market. At this time the policy of the British Government was strongly opposed to the extension of the colonies west. In 1763, the King of England forbade, by royal proclamation, his colonial subjects from making a settlement beyond the sources of the rivers which fall into the Atlantic Ocean. At the instance of the Board of Trade, measures were taken to prevent the settlement without the limits prescribed, and to retain the commerce within easy reach of Great Britain.

The commander-in-chief of the king's forces wrote in 1769: "In the course of a few years necessity will compel the colonists, should they extend their settlements west, to provide manufactures of some kind for themselves, and when all connection upheld by commerce with the mother country ceases, an *independency* in their government will soon follow."

In accordance with this policy, Gov. Gage issued a proclamation in 1772, commanding the inhabitants of Vincennes to abandon their settlements and join some of the Eastern English colonies. To this they





strenuously objected, giving good reasons therefor, and were allowed to remain. The strong opposition to this policy of Great Britain led to its change, and to such a course as to gain the attachment of the French population. In December, 1773, influential citizens of Quebec petitioned the king for an extension of the boundary lines of that province, which was granted, and Parliament passed an act on June 2, 1774, extending the boundary so as to include the territory lying within the present States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan.

In consequence of the liberal policy pursued by the British Government toward the French settlers in the West, they were disposed to favor that nation in the war which soon followed with the colonies; but the early alliance between France and America soon brought them to the side of the war for independence.

In 1774, Gov. Dunmore, of Virginia, began to encourage emigration to the Western lands. He appointed magistrates at Fort Pitt under the pretense that the fort was under the government of that commonwealth. One of these justices, John Connelly, who possessed a tract of land in the Ohio Valley, gathered a force of men and garrisoned the fort, calling it Fort Dunmore. This and other parties were formed to select sites for settlements, and often came in conflict with the Indians, who yet claimed portions of the valley, and several battles followed. These ended in the famous battle of Kanawha in July, where the Indians were defeated and driven across the Ohio.

During the years 1775 and 1776, by the operations of land companies and the perseverance of individuals, several settlements were firmly established between the Alleghanies and the Ohio River, and western land speculators were busy in Illinois and on the Wabash. At a council held in Kaskaskia on July 5, 1773, an association of English traders, calling themselves the "Illinois Land Company," obtained from ten chiefs of the Kaskaskia, Cahokia and Peoria tribes two large tracts of land lying on the east side of the Mississippi River south of the Illinois. In 1775, a merchant from the Illinois Country, named Viviat, came to Post Vincennes as the agent of the association called the "Wabash Land Company." On the 8th of October he obtained from eleven Piankeshaw chiefs, a deed for 37,497,600 acres of land. This deed was signed by the grantors, attested by a number of the inhabitants of Vincennes, and afterward recorded in the office of a notary public at Kaskaskia. This and other land companies had extensive schemes for the colonization of the West; but all were frustrated by the breaking out of the Revolution. On the 20th of April, 1780, the two companies named consolidated under the name of the "United Illinois and Wabash Land Company." They afterward made





strenuous efforts to have these grants sanctioned by Congress, but all signally failed.

When the War of the Revolution commenced, Kentucky was an unorganized country, though there were several settlements within her borders.

In Hutchins' Topography of Virginia, it is stated that at that time "Kaskaskia contained 80 houses, and nearly 1,000 white and black inhabitants—the whites being a little the more numerous. Cahokia contains 50 houses and 300 white inhabitants, and 80 negroes. There were east of the Mississippi River, about the year 1771"—when these observations were made—"300 white men capable of bearing arms, and 230 negroes."

From 1775 until the expedition of Clark, nothing is recorded and nothing known of these settlements, save what is contained in a report made by a committee to Congress in June, 1778. From it the following extract is made:

"Near the mouth of the River Kaskaskia, there is a village which appears to have contained nearly eighty families from the beginning of the late revolution. There are twelve families in a small village at la Prairie du Rochers, and near fifty families at the Kahokia Village. There are also four or five families at Fort Chartres and St. Philips, which is five miles further up the river."

St. Louis had been settled in February, 1764, and at this time contained, including its neighboring towns, over six hundred whites and one hundred and fifty negroes. It must be remembered that all the country west of the Mississippi was now under French rule, and remained so until ceded again to Spain, its original owner, who afterwards sold it and the country including New Orleans to the United States. At Detroit there were, according to Capt. Carver, who was in the Northwest from 1766 to 1768, more than one hundred houses, and the river was settled for more than twenty miles, although poorly cultivated—the people being engaged in the Indian trade. This old town has a history, which we will here relate.

It is the oldest town in the Northwest, having been founded by Antoine de Lamotte Cadillac, in 1701. It was laid out in the form of an oblong square, of two acres in length, and an acre and a half in width. As described by A. D. Frazer, who first visited it and became a permanent resident of the place, in 1778, it comprised within its limits that space between Mr. Palmer's store (Conant Block) and Capt. Perkins' house (near the Arsenal building), and extended back as far as the public barn, and was bordered in front by the Detroit River. It was surrounded by oak and cedar pickets, about fifteen feet long, set in the ground, and had four gates—east, west, north and south. Over the first three of these



gates were block houses provided with four guns apiece, each a six-pounder. Two six-gun batteries were planted fronting the river and in a parallel direction with the block houses. There were four streets running east and west, the main street being twenty feet wide and the rest fifteen feet, while the four streets crossing these at right angles were from ten to fifteen feet in width.

At the date spoken of by Mr. Frazer, there was no fort within the enclosure, but a citadel on the ground corresponding to the present northwest corner of Jefferson Avenue and Wayne Street. The citadel was inclosed by pickets, and within it were erected barracks of wood, two stories high, sufficient to contain ten officers, and also barracks sufficient to contain four hundred men, and a provision store built of brick. The citadel also contained a hospital and guard-house. The old town of Detroit, in 1778, contained about sixty houses, most of them one story, with a few a story and a half in height. They were all of logs, some hewn and some round. There was one building of splendid appearance, called the "King's Palace," two stories high, which stood near the east gate. It was built for Governor Hamilton, the first governor commissioned by the British. There were two guard-houses, one near the west gate and the other near the Government House. Each of the guards consisted of twenty-four men and a subaltern, who mounted regularly every morning between nine and ten o'clock, Each furnished four sentinels, who were relieved every two hours. There was also an officer of the day, who performed strict duty. Each of the gates was shut regularly at sunset; even wicket gates were shut at nine o'clock, and all the keys were delivered into the hands of the commanding officer. They were opened in the morning at sunrise. No Indian or squaw was permitted to enter town with any weapon, such as a tomahawk or a knife. It was a standing order that the Indians should deliver their arms and instruments of every kind before they were permitted to pass the sentinel, and they were restored to them on their return. No more than twenty-five Indians were allowed to enter the town at any one time, and they were admitted only at the east and west gates. At sundown the drums beat, and all the Indians were required to leave town instantly. There was a council house near the water side for the purpose of holding council with the Indians. The population of the town was about sixty families, in all about two hundred males and one hundred females. This town was destroyed by fire, all except one dwelling, in 1805. After which the present "new" town was laid out.

On the breaking out of the Revolution, the British held every post of importance in the West. Kentucky was formed as a component part of Virginia, and the sturdy pioneers of the West, alive to their interests,







and recognizing the great benefits of obtaining the control of the trade in this part of the New World, held steadily to their purposes, and those within the commonwealth of Kentucky proceeded to exercise their civil privileges, by electing John Todd and Richard Gallaway, burgesses to represent them in the Assembly of the parent state. Early in September of that year (1777) the first court was held in Harrodsburg, and Col. Bowman, afterwards major, who had arrived in August, was made the commander of a militia organization which had been commenced the March previous. Thus the tree of loyalty was growing. The chief spirit in this far-out colony, who had represented her the year previous east of the mountains, was now meditating a move unequalled in its boldness. He had been watching the movements of the British throughout the Northwest, and understood their whole plan. He saw it was through their possession of the posts at Detroit, Vincennes, Kaskaskia, and other places, which would give them constant and easy access to the various Indian tribes in the Northwest, that the British intended to penetrate the country from the north and south, and annihilate the frontier fortresses. This moving, energetic man was Colonel, afterwards General, George Rogers Clark. He knew the Indians were not unanimously in accord with the English, and he was convinced that, could the British be defeated and expelled from the Northwest, the natives might be easily awed into neutrality; and by spies sent for the purpose, he satisfied himself that the enterprise against the Illinois settlements might easily succeed. Having convinced himself of the certainty of the project, he repaired to the Capital of Virginia, which place he reached on November 5th. While he was on his way, fortunately, on October 17th, Burgoyne had been defeated, and the spirits of the colonists greatly encouraged thereby. Patrick Henry was Governor of Virginia, and at once entered heartily into Clark's plans. The same plan had before been agitated in the Colonial Assemblies, but there was no one until Clark came who was sufficiently acquainted with the condition of affairs at the scene of action to be able to guide them.

Clark, having satisfied the Virginia leaders of the feasibility of his plan, received, on the 2d of January, two sets of instructions—one secret, the other open—the latter authorized him to proceed to enlist seven companies to go to Kentucky, subject to his orders, and to serve three months from their arrival in the West. The secret order authorized him to arm these troops, to procure his powder and lead of General Hand at Pittsburgh, and to proceed at once to subjugate the country.

With these instructions Clark repaired to Pittsburgh, choosing rather to raise his men west of the mountains, as he well knew all were needed in the colonies in the conflict there. He sent Col. W. B. Smith to Hol-

The history of the world is a long and tedious story, and yet it is one of the most interesting and useful of all. It is a story of the human race, of its progress, its struggles, its triumphs, and its failures. It is a story of the human mind, of its powers, its limitations, and its possibilities. It is a story of the human heart, of its joys, its sorrows, its hopes, and its fears. It is a story of the human spirit, of its strength, its weakness, its courage, and its cowardice. It is a story of the human race, of its progress, its struggles, its triumphs, and its failures. It is a story of the human mind, of its powers, its limitations, and its possibilities. It is a story of the human heart, of its joys, its sorrows, its hopes, and its fears. It is a story of the human spirit, of its strength, its weakness, its courage, and its cowardice.

ston for the same purpose, but neither succeeded in raising the required number of men. The settlers in these parts were afraid to leave their own firesides exposed to a vigilant foe, and but few could be induced to join the proposed expedition. With three companies and several private volunteers, Clark at length commenced his descent of the Ohio, which he navigated as far as the Falls, where he took possession of and fortified Corn Island, a small island between the present Cities of Louisville, Kentucky, and New Albany, Indiana. Remains of this fortification may yet be found. At this place he appointed Col. Bowman to meet him with such recruits as had reached Kentucky by the southern route, and as many as could be spared from the station. Here he announced to the men their real destination. Having completed his arrangements, and chosen his party, he left a small garrison upon the island, and on the 24th of June, during a total eclipse of the sun, which to them augured no good, and which fixes beyond dispute the date of starting, he with his chosen band, fell down the river. His plan was to go by water as far as Fort Massac or Massacre, and thence march direct to Kaskaskia. Here he intended to surprise the garrison, and after its capture go to Cahokia, then to Vincennes, and lastly to Detroit. Should he fail, he intended to march directly to the Mississippi River and cross it into the Spanish country. Before his start he received two good items of information: one that the alliance had been formed between France and the United States; and the other that the Indians throughout the Illinois country and the inhabitants, at the various frontier posts, had been led to believe by the British that the "Long Knives" or Virginians, were the most fierce, bloodthirsty and cruel savages that ever scalped a foe. With this impression on their minds, Clark saw that proper management would cause them to submit at once from fear, if surprised, and then from gratitude would become friendly if treated with unexpected leniency.

The march to Kaskaskia was accomplished through a hot July sun, and the town reached on the evening of July 4. He captured the fort near the village, and soon after the village itself by surprise, and without the loss of a single man or by killing any of the enemy. After sufficiently working upon the fears of the natives, Clark told them they were at perfect liberty to worship as they pleased, and to take whichever side of the great conflict they would, also he would protect them from any barbarity from British or Indian foe. This had the desired effect, and the inhabitants, so unexpectedly and so gratefully surprised by the unlooked for turn of affairs, at once swore allegiance to the American arms, and when Clark desired to go to Cahokia on the 6th of July, they accompanied him, and through their influence the inhabitants of the place surrendered, and gladly placed themselves under his protection. Thus







the two important posts in Illinois passed from the hands of the English into the possession of Virginia.

In the person of the priest at Kaskaskia, M. Gibault, Clark found a powerful ally and generous friend. Clark saw that, to retain possession of the Northwest and treat successfully with the Indians within its boundaries, he must establish a government for the colonies he had taken. St. Vincent, the next important post to Detroit, remained yet to be taken before the Mississippi Valley was conquered. M. Gibault told him that he would alone, by persuasion, lead Vincennes to throw off its connection with England. Clark gladly accepted his offer, and on the 14th of July, in company with a fellow-townsmen, M. Gibault started on his mission of peace, and on the 1st of August returned with the cheerful intelligence that the post on the "Oubache" had taken the oath of allegiance to the Old Dominion. During this interval, Clark established his courts, placed garrisons at Kaskaskia and Cahokia, successfully re-enlisted his men, sent word to have a fort, which proved the germ of Louisville, erected at the Falls of the Ohio, and dispatched Mr. Rocheblave, who had been commander at Kaskaskia, as a prisoner of war to Richmond. In October the County of Illinois was established by the Legislature of Virginia, John Todd appointed Lieutenant Colonel and Civil Governor, and in November General Clark and his men received the thanks of the Old Dominion through their Legislature.

In a speech a few days afterward, Clark made known fully to the natives his plans, and at its close all came forward and swore allegiance to the Long Knives. While he was doing this Governor Hamilton, having made his various arrangements, had left Detroit and moved down the Wabash to Vincennes intending to operate from that point in reducing the Illinois posts, and then proceed on down to Kentucky and drive the rebels from the West. Gen. Clark had, on the return of M. Gibault, dispatched Captain Helm, of Fauquier County, Virginia, with an attendant named Henry, across the Illinois prairies to command the fort. Hamilton knew nothing of the capitulation of the post, and was greatly surprised on his arrival to be confronted by Capt. Helm, who, standing at the entrance of the fort by a loaded cannon ready to fire upon his assailants, demanded upon what terms Hamilton demanded possession of the fort. Being granted the rights of a prisoner of war, he surrendered to the British General, who could scarcely believe his eyes when he saw the force in the garrison.

Hamilton, not realizing the character of the men with whom he was contending, gave up his intended campaign for the Winter, sent his four hundred Indian warriors to prevent troops from coming down the Ohio,



and to annoy the Americans in all ways, and sat quietly down to pass the Winter. Information of all these proceedings having reached Clark, he saw that immediate and decisive action was necessary, and that unless he captured Hamilton, Hamilton would capture him. Clark received the news on the 29th of January, 1779, and on February 4th. having sufficiently garrisoned Kaskaskia and Cahokia, he sent down the Mississippi a "battoe," as Major Bowman writes it, in order to ascend the Ohio and Wabash, and operate with the land forces gathering for the fray.

On the next day, Clark, with his little force of one hundred and twenty men, set out for the post, and after incredible hard marching through much mud, the ground being thawed by the incessant spring rains, on the 22d reached the fort, and being joined by his "battoe," at once commenced the attack on the post. The aim of the American backwoodsman was unerring, and on the 24th the garrison surrendered to the intrepid boldness of Clark. The French were treated with great kindness, and gladly renewed their allegiance to Virginia. Hamilton was sent as a prisoner to Virginia, where he was kept in close confinement. During his command of the British frontier posts, he had offered prizes to the Indians for all the scalps of Americans they would bring to him, and had earned in consequence thereof the title "Hair-buyer General," by which he was ever afterward known.

Detroit was now without doubt within easy reach of the enterprising Virginian, could he but raise the necessary force. Governor Henry being apprised of this, promised him the needed reinforcement, and Clark concluded to wait until he could capture and sufficiently garrison the posts. Had Clark failed in this bold undertaking, and Hamilton succeeded in uniting the western Indians for the next Spring's campaign, the West would indeed have been swept from the Mississippi to the Allegheny Mountains, and the great blow struck, which had been contemplated from the commencement, by the British.

"But for this small army of dripping, but fearless Virginians, the union of all the tribes from Georgia to Maine against the colonies might have been effected, and the whole current of our history changed."

At this time some fears were entertained by the Colonial Governments that the Indians in the North and Northwest were inclining to the British, and under the instructions of Washington, now Commander-in-Chief of the Colonial army, and so bravely fighting for American independence, armed forces were sent against the Six Nations, and upon the Ohio frontier, Col. Bowman, acting under the same general's orders, marched against Indians within the present limits of that State. These expeditions were in the main successful, and the Indians were compelled to sue for peace.





During this same year (1779) the famous "Land Laws" of Virginia were passed. The passage of these laws was of more consequence to the pioneers of Kentucky and the Northwest than the gaining of a few Indian conflicts. These laws confirmed in main all grants made, and guaranteed to all actual settlers their rights and privileges. After providing for the settlers, the laws provided for selling the balance of the public lands at forty cents per acre. To carry the Land Laws into effect, the Legislature sent four Virginians westward to attend to the various claims, over many of which great confusion prevailed concerning their validity. These gentlemen opened their court on October 13, 1779, at St. Asaphs, and continued until April 26, 1780, when they adjourned, having decided three thousand claims. They were succeeded by the surveyor, who came in the person of Mr. George May, and assumed his duties on the 10th day of the month whose name he bore. With the opening of the next year (1780) the troubles concerning the navigation of the Mississippi commenced. The Spanish Government exacted such measures in relation to its trade as to cause the overtures made to the United States to be rejected. The American Government considered they had a right to navigate its channel. To enforce their claims, a fort was erected below the mouth of the Ohio on the Kentucky side of the river. The settlements in Kentucky were being rapidly filled by emigrants. It was during this year that the first seminary of learning was established in the West in this young and enterprising Commonwealth.

The settlers here did not look upon the building of this fort in a friendly manner, as it aroused the hostility of the Indians. Spain had been friendly to the Colonies during their struggle for independence, and though for a while this friendship appeared in danger from the refusal of the free navigation of the river, yet it was finally settled to the satisfaction of both nations.

The Winter of 1779-80 was one of the most unusually severe ones ever experienced in the West. The Indians always referred to it as the "Great Cold." Numbers of wild animals perished, and not a few pioneers lost their lives. The following Summer a party of Canadians and Indians attacked St. Louis, and attempted to take possession of it in consequence of the friendly disposition of Spain to the revolting colonies. They met with such a determined resistance on the part of the inhabitants, even the women taking part in the battle, that they were compelled to abandon the contest. They also made an attack on the settlements in Kentucky, but, becoming alarmed in some unaccountable manner, they fled the country in great haste.

About this time arose the question in the Colonial Congress concerning the western lands claimed by Virginia, New York, Massachusetts



and Connecticut. The agitation concerning this subject finally led New York, on the 19th of February, 1780, to pass a law giving to the delegates of that State in Congress the power to cede her western lands for the benefit of the United States. This law was laid before Congress during the next month, but no steps were taken concerning it until September 6th, when a resolution passed that body calling upon the States claiming western lands to release their claims in favor of the whole body. This basis formed the union, and was the first after all of those legislative measures which resulted in the creation of the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota. In December of the same year, the plan of conquering Detroit again arose. The conquest might have easily been effected by Clark had the necessary aid been furnished him. Nothing decisive was done, yet the heads of the Government knew that the safety of the Northwest from British invasion lay in the capture and retention of that important post, the only unconquered one in the territory.

Before the close of the year, Kentucky was divided into the Counties of Lincoln, Fayette and Jefferson, and the act establishing the Town of Louisville was passed. This same year is also noted in the annals of American history as the year in which occurred Arnold's treason to the United States.

Virginia, in accordance with the resolution of Congress, on the 2d day of January, 1781, agreed to yield her western lands to the United States upon certain conditions, which Congress would not accede to, and the Act of Cession, on the part of the Old Dominion, failed, nor was anything farther done until 1783. During all that time the Colonies were busily engaged in the struggle with the mother country, and in consequence thereof but little heed was given to the western settlements. Upon the 16th of April, 1781, the first birth north of the Ohio River of American parentage occurred, being that of Mary Heckewelder, daughter of the widely known Moravian missionary, whose band of Christian Indians suffered in after years a horrible massacre by the hands of the frontier settlers, who had been exasperated by the murder of several of their neighbors, and in their rage committed, without regard to humanity, a deed which forever afterwards cast a shade of shame upon their lives. For this and kindred outrages on the part of the whites, the Indians committed many deeds of cruelty which darken the years of 1771 and 1772 in the history of the Northwest.

During the year 1782 a number of battles among the Indians and frontiersmen occurred, and between the Moravian Indians and the Wyandots. In these, horrible acts of cruelty were practised on the captives, many of such dark deeds transpiring under the leadership of the notorious





frontier outlaw, Simon Girty, whose name, as well as those of his brothers, was a terror to women and children. These occurred chiefly in the Ohio valleys. Cotemporary with them were several engagements in Kentucky, in which the famous Daniel Boone engaged, and who, often by his skill and knowledge of Indian warfare, saved the outposts from cruel destruc-



INDIANS ATTACKING FRONTIERSMEN.

tion. By the close of the year victory had perched upon the American banner, and on the 30th of November, provisional articles of peace had been arranged between the Commissioners of England and her unconquerable colonies. Cornwallis had been defeated on the 19th of October preceding, and the liberty of America was assured. On the 19th of April following, the anniversary of the battle of Lexington, peace was



proclaimed to the army of the United States, and on the 2d of the next September, the definite treaty which ended our revolutionary struggle was concluded. By the terms of that treaty, the boundaries of the West were as follows: On the north the line was to extend along the center of the Great Lakes; from the western point of Lake Superior to Long Lake; thence to the Lake of the Woods; thence to the head of the Mississippi River; down its center to the 31st parallel of latitude, then on that line east to the head of the Appalachicola River; down its center to its junction with the Flint; thence straight to the head of St. Mary's River, and thence down along its center to the Atlantic Ocean.

Following the cessation of hostilities with England, several posts were still occupied by the British in the North and West. Among these was Detroit, still in the hands of the enemy. Numerous engagements with the Indians throughout Ohio and Indiana occurred, upon whose lands adventurous whites would settle ere the title had been acquired by the proper treaty.

To remedy this latter evil, Congress appointed commissioners to treat with the natives and purchase their lands, and prohibited the settlement of the territory until this could be done. Before the close of the year another attempt was made to capture Detroit, which was, however, not pushed, and Virginia, no longer feeling the interest in the Northwest she had formerly done, withdrew her troops, having on the 20th of December preceding authorized the whole of her possessions to be deeded to the United States. This was done on the 1st of March following, and the Northwest Territory passed from the control of the Old Dominion. To Gen. Clark and his soldiers, however, she gave a tract of one hundred and fifty thousand acres of land, to be situated any where north of the Ohio wherever they chose to locate them. They selected the region opposite the falls of the Ohio, where is now the dilapidated village of Clarksville, about midway between the Cities of New Albany and Jeffersonville, Indiana.

While the frontier remained thus, and Gen. Haldimand at Detroit refused to evacuate alleging that he had no orders from his King to do so, settlers were rapidly gathering about the inland forts. In the Spring of 1784, Pittsburgh was regularly laid out, and from the journal of Arthur Lee, who passed through the town soon after on his way to the Indian council at Fort McIntosh, we suppose it was not very prepossessing in appearance. He says:

"Pittsburgh is inhabited almost entirely by Scots and Irish, who live in paltry log houses, and are as dirty as if in the north of Ireland or even Scotland. There is a great deal of trade carried on, the goods being bought at the vast expense of forty-five shillings per pound from Phila-





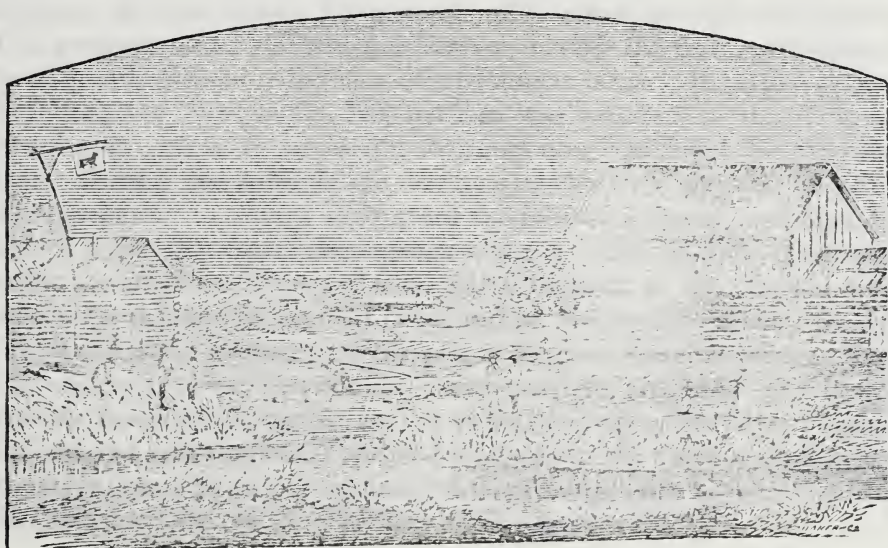
delphia and Baltimore. They take in the shops flour, wheat, skins and money. There are in the town four attorneys, two doctors, and not a priest of any persuasion, nor church nor chapel."

Kentucky at this time contained thirty thousand inhabitants, and was beginning to discuss measures for a separation from Virginia. A land office was opened at Louisville, and measures were adopted to take defensive precaution against the Indians who were yet, in some instances, incited to deeds of violence by the British. Before the close of this year, 1784, the military claimants of land began to occupy them, although no entries were recorded until 1787.

The Indian title to the Northwest was not yet extinguished. They held large tracts of lands, and in order to prevent bloodshed Congress adopted means for treaties with the original owners and provided for the surveys of the lands gained thereby, as well as for those north of the Ohio, now in its possession. On January 31, 1786, a treaty was made with the Wabash Indians. The treaty of Fort Stanwix had been made in 1784. That at Fort McIntosh in 1785, and through these much land was gained. The Wabash Indians, however, afterward refused to comply with the provisions of the treaty made with them, and in order to compel their adherence to its provisions, force was used. During the year 1786, the free navigation of the Mississippi came up in Congress, and caused various discussions, which resulted in no definite action, only serving to excite speculation in regard to the western lands. Congress had promised bounties of land to the soldiers of the Revolution, but owing to the unsettled condition of affairs along the Mississippi respecting its navigation, and the trade of the Northwest, that body had, in 1783, declared its inability to fulfill these promises until a treaty could be concluded between the two Governments. Before the close of the year 1786, however, it was able, through the treaties with the Indians, to allow some grants and the settlement thereon, and on the 14th of September Connecticut ceded to the General Government the tract of land known as the "Connecticut Reserve," and before the close of the following year a large tract of land north of the Ohio was sold to a company, who at once took measures to settle it. By the provisions of this grant, the company were to pay the United States one dollar per acre, subject to a deduction of one-third for bad lands and other contingencies. They received 750,000 acres, bounded on the south by the Ohio, on the east by the seventh range of townships, on the west by the sixteenth range, and on the north by a line so drawn as to make the grant complete without the reservations. In addition to this, Congress afterward granted 100,000 acres to actual settlers, and 214,285 acres as army bounties under the resolutions of 1789 and 1790.



While Dr. Cutler, one of the agents of the company, was pressing its claims before Congress, that body was bringing into form an ordinance for the political and social organization of this Territory. When the cession was made by Virginia, in 1784, a plan was offered, but rejected. A motion had been made to strike from the proposed plan the prohibition of slavery, which prevailed. The plan was then discussed and altered, and finally passed unanimously, with the exception of South Carolina. By this proposition, the Territory was to have been divided into states



PRESENT SITE OF LAKE STREET BRIDGE, CHICAGO, IN 1833.

by parallels and meridian lines. This, it was thought, would make ten states, which were to have been named as follows—beginning at the northwest corner and going southwardly: Sylvania, Michigania, Chersonesus, Assenisipia, Metropotamia, Illenoia. Saratoga, Washington, Poly-potamia and Pelisipia.

There was a more serious objection to this plan than its category of names,—the boundaries. The root of the difficulty was in the resolution of Congress passed in October, 1780, which fixed the boundaries of the ceded lands to be from one hundred to one hundred and fifty miles





square. These resolutions being presented to the Legislatures of Virginia and Massachusetts, they desired a change, and in July, 1786, the subject was taken up in Congress, and changed to favor a division into not more than five states, and not less than three. This was approved by the State Legislature of Virginia. The subject of the Government was again taken up by Congress in 1786, and discussed throughout that year and until July, 1787, when the famous "Compact of 1787" was passed, and the foundation of the government of the Northwest laid. This compact is fully discussed and explained in the history of Illinois in this book, and to it the reader is referred.

The passage of this act and the grant to the New England Company was soon followed by an application to the Government by John Cleves Symmes, of New Jersey, for a grant of the land between the Miamis. This gentleman had visited these lands soon after the treaty of 1786, and, being greatly pleased with them, offered similar terms to those given to the New England Company. The petition was referred to the Treasury Board with power to act, and a contract was concluded the following year. During the Autumn the directors of the New England Company were preparing to occupy their grant the following Spring, and upon the 23d of November made arrangements for a party of forty-seven men, under the superintendency of Gen. Rufus Putnam, to set forward. Six boat-builders were to leave at once, and on the first of January the surveyors and their assistants, twenty-six in number, were to meet at Hartford and proceed on their journey westward; the remainder to follow as soon as possible. Congress, in the meantime, upon the 3d of October, had ordered seven hundred troops for defense of the western settlers, and to prevent unauthorized intrusions; and two days later appointed Arthur St. Clair Governor of the Territory of the Northwest.

### AMERICAN SETTLEMENTS.

The civil organization of the Northwest Territory was now complete, and notwithstanding the uncertainty of Indian affairs, settlers from the East began to come into the country rapidly. The New England Company sent their men during the Winter of 1787-8 pressing on over the Alleghenies by the old Indian path which had been opened into Braddock's road, and which has since been made a national turnpike from Cumberland westward. Through the weary winter days they toiled on, and by April were all gathered on the Yohiogany, where boats had been built, and at once started for the Muskingum. Here they arrived on the 7th of that month, and unless the Moravian missionaries be regarded as the pioneers of Ohio, this little band can justly claim that honor.



Gen. St. Clair, the appointed Governor of the Northwest, not having yet arrived, a set of laws were passed, written out, and published by being nailed to a tree in the embryo town, and Jonathan Meigs appointed to administer them.

Washington in writing of this, the first American settlement in the Northwest, said: "No colony in America was ever settled under such favorable auspices as that which has just commenced at Muskingum. Information, property and strength will be its characteristics. I know many of its settlers personally, and there never were men better calculated to promote the welfare of such a community."



A PIONEER DWELLING.

On the 2d of July a meeting of the directors and agents was held on the banks of the Muskingum, "for the purpose of naming the new-born city and its squares." As yet the settlement was known as the "Muskingum," but that was now changed to the name Marietta, in honor of Marie Antoinette. The square upon which the block-houses stood was called "*Campus Martius*;" square number 19, "*Capitolium*;" square number 61, "*Cecilia*;" and the great road through the covert way, "*Sacra Via*." Two days after, an oration was delivered by James M. Varnum, who with S. H. Parsons and John Armstrong had been appointed to the judicial bench of the territory on the 16th of October, 1787. On July 9, Gov. St. Clair arrived, and the colony began to assume form. The act of 1787 provided two district grades of government for the Northwest,







under the first of which the whole power was invested in the hands of a governor and three district judges. This was immediately formed upon the Governor's arrival, and the first laws of the colony passed on the 25th of July. These provided for the organization of the militia, and on the next day appeared the Governor's proclamation, erecting all that country that had been ceded by the Indians east of the Scioto River into the County of Washington. From that time forward, notwithstanding the doubts yet existing as to the Indians, all Marietta prospered, and on the 2d of September the first court of the territory was held with imposing ceremonies.

The emigration westward at this time was very great. The commander at Fort Harmer, at the mouth of the Muskingum, reported four thousand five hundred persons as having passed that post between February and June, 1788—many of whom would have purchased of the "Associates," as the New England Company was called, had they been ready to receive them.

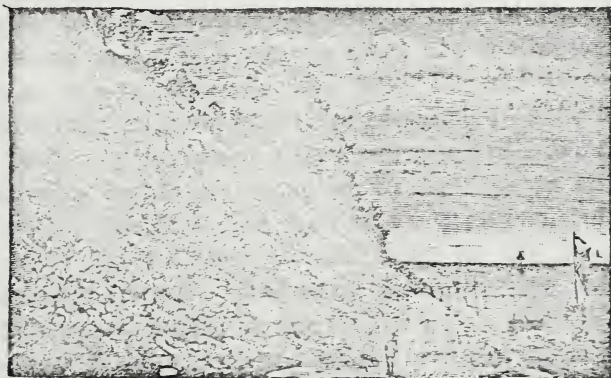
On the 26th of November, 1787, Symmes issued a pamphlet stating the terms of his contract and the plan of sale he intended to adopt. In January, 1788, Matthias Denman, of New Jersey, took an active interest in Symmes' purchase, and located among other tracts the sections upon which Cincinnati has been built. Retaining one-third of this locality, he sold the other two-thirds to Robert Patterson and John Filson, and the three, about August, commenced to lay out a town on the spot, which was designated as being opposite Licking River, to the mouth of which they proposed to have a road cut from Lexington. The naming of the town is thus narrated in the "Western Annals":—"Mr. Filson, who had been a schoolmaster, was appointed to name the town, and, in respect to its situation, and as if with a prophetic perception of the mixed race that were to inhabit it in after days, he named it Losantiville, which, being interpreted, means: *ville*, the town; *anti*, against or opposite to; *os*, the mouth; *L.* of Licking."

Meanwhile, in July, Symmes got thirty persons and eight four-horse teams under way for the West. These reached Limestone (now Maysville) in September, where were several persons from Redstone. Here Mr. Symmes tried to found a settlement, but the great freshet of 1789 caused the "Point," as it was and is yet called, to be fifteen feet under water, and the settlement to be abandoned. The little band of settlers removed to the mouth of the Miami. Before Symmes and his colony left the "Point," two settlements had been made on his purchase. The first was by Mr. Stiltes, the original projector of the whole plan, who, with a colony of Redstone people, had located at the mouth of the Miami, whither Symmes went with his Maysville colony. Here a clearing had



been made by the Indians owing to the great fertility of the soil. Mr. Stiltes with his colony came to this place on the 18th of November, 1788, with twenty-six persons, and, building a block-house, prepared to remain through the Winter. They named the settlement Columbia. Here they were kindly treated by the Indians, but suffered greatly from the flood of 1789.

On the 4th of March, 1789, the Constitution of the United States went into operation, and on April 30, George Washington was inaugurated President of the American people, and during the next Summer, an Indian war was commenced by the tribes north of the Ohio. The President at first used pacific means; but these failing, he sent General Harmer against the hostile tribes. He destroyed several villages, but



LAKE BLUFF.

The frontage of Lake Bluff Grounds on Lake Michigan, with one hundred and seventy feet of gradual ascent.

was defeated in two battles, near the present City of Fort Wayne, Indiana. From this time till the close of 1795, the principal events were the wars with the various Indian tribes. In 1796, General St. Clair was appointed in command, and marched against the Indians; but while he was encamped on a stream, the St. Mary, a branch of the Maumee, he was attacked and defeated with the loss of six hundred men.

General Wayne was now sent against the savages. In August, 1794, he met them near the rapids of the Maumee, and gained a complete victory. This success, followed by vigorous measures, compelled the Indians to sue for peace, and on the 30th of July, the following year, the treaty of Greenville was signed by the principal chiefs, by which a large tract of country was ceded to the United States.

Before proceeding in our narrative, we will pause to notice Fort Washington, erected in the early part of this war on the site of Cincinnati. Nearly all of the great cities of the Northwest, and indeed of the





whole country, have had their *nuclei* in those rude pioneer structures, known as forts or stockades. Thus Forts Dearborn, Washington, Poncechartrain, mark the original sites of the now proud Cities of Chicago, Cincinnati and Detroit. So of most of the flourishing cities east and west of the Mississippi. Fort Washington, erected by Doughty in 1790, was a rude but highly interesting structure. It was composed of a number of strongly-built hewed log cabins. Those designed for soldiers' barracks were a story and a half high, while those composing the officers quarters were more imposing and more conveniently arranged and furnished. The whole were so placed as to form a hollow square, enclosing about an acre of ground, with a block house at each of the four angles.

The logs for the construction of this fort were cut from the ground upon which it was erected. It stood between Third and Fourth Streets of the present city (Cincinnati) extending east of Eastern Row, now Broadway, which was then a narrow alley, and the eastern boundary of of the town as it was originally laid out. On the bank of the river, immediately in front of the fort, was an appendage of the fort, called the Artificer's Yard. It contained about two acres of ground, enclosed by small contiguous buildings, occupied by workshops and quarters of laborers. Within this enclosure there was a large two-story frame house, familiarly called the "Yellow House," built for the accommodation of the Quartermaster General. For many years this was the best finished and most commodious edifice in the Queen City. Fort Washington was for some time the headquarters of both the civil and military governments of the Northwestern Territory.

Following the consummation of the treaty various gigantic land speculations were entered into by different persons, who hoped to obtain from the Indians in Michigan and northern Indiana, large tracts of lands. These were generally discovered in time to prevent the outrageous schemes from being carried out, and from involving the settlers in war. On October 27, 1795, the treaty between the United States and Spain was signed, whereby the free navigation of the Mississippi was secured.

No sooner had the treaty of 1795 been ratified than settlements began to pour rapidly into the West. The great event of the year 1796 was the occupation of that part of the Northwest including Michigan, which was this year, under the provisions of the treaty, evacuated by the British forces. The United States, owing to certain conditions, did not feel justified in addressing the authorities in Canada in relation to Detroit and other frontier posts. When at last the British authorities were called to give them up, they at once complied, and General Wayne, who had done so much to preserve the frontier settlements, and who, before the year's close, sickened and died near Erie, transferred his head-



quarters to the neighborhood of the lakes, where a county named after him was formed, which included the northwest of Ohio, all of Michigan, and the northeast of Indiana. During this same year settlements were formed at the present City of Chillicothe, along the Miami from Middletown to Piqua, while in the more distant West, settlers and speculators began to appear in great numbers. In September, the City of Cleveland was laid out, and during the Summer and Autumn, Samuel Jackson and Jonathan Sharpless erected the first manufactory of paper—the “Red-stone Paper Mill”—in the West. St. Louis contained some seventy houses, and Detroit over three hundred, and along the river, contiguous to it, were more than three thousand inhabitants, mostly French Canadians, Indians and half-breeds, scarcely any Americans venturing yet into that part of the Northwest.

The election of representatives for the territory had taken place, and on the 4th of February, 1799, they convened at Losantiville—now known as Cincinnati, having been named so by Gov. St. Clair, and considered the capital of the Territory—to nominate persons from whom the members of the Legislature were to be chosen in accordance with a previous ordinance. This nomination being made, the Assembly adjourned until the 16th of the following September. From those named the President selected as members of the council, Henry Vandenburg, of Vincennes, Robert Oliver, of Marietta, James Findlay and Jacob Burnett, of Cincinnati, and David Vance, of Vanceville. On the 16th of September the Territorial Legislature met, and on the 24th the two houses were duly organized, Henry Vandenburg being elected President of the Council.

The message of Gov. St. Clair was addressed to the Legislature September 20th, and on October 13th that body elected as a delegate to Congress Gen. Wm. Henry Harrison, who received eleven of the votes cast, being a majority of one over his opponent, Arthur St. Clair, son of Gen. St. Clair.

The whole number of acts passed at this session, and approved by the Governor, were thirty-seven—eleven others were passed, but received his veto. The most important of those passed related to the militia, to the administration, and to taxation. On the 19th of December this protracted session of the first Legislature in the West was closed, and on the 30th of December the President nominated Charles Willing Bryd to the office of Secretary of the Territory *vice* Wm. Henry Harrison, elected to Congress. The Senate confirmed his nomination the next day.





## DIVISION OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY.

The increased emigration to the Northwest, the extent of the domain, and the inconvenient modes of travel, made it very difficult to conduct the ordinary operations of government, and rendered the efficient action of courts almost impossible. To remedy this, it was deemed advisable to divide the territory for civil purposes. Congress, in 1800, appointed a committee to examine the question and report some means for its solution. This committee, on the 3d of March, reported that:

“In the three western countries there has been but one court having cognizance of crimes, in five years, and the immunity which offenders experience attracts, as to an asylum, the most vile and abandoned criminals, and at the same time deters useful citizens from making settlements in such society. The extreme necessity of judiciary attention and assistance is experienced in civil as well as in criminal cases. \* \* \* \* To minister a remedy to these and other evils, it occurs to this committee that it is expedient that a division of said territory into two distinct and separate governments should be made; and that such division be made by a line beginning at the mouth of the Great Miami River, running directly north until it intersects the boundary between the United States and Canada.”

The report was accepted by Congress, and, in accordance with its suggestions, that body passed an Act extinguishing the Northwest Territory, which Act was approved May 7. Among its provisions were these:

“That from and after July 4 next, all that part of the Territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio River, which lies to the westward of a line beginning at a point on the Ohio, opposite to the mouth of the Kentucky River, and running thence to Fort Recovery, and thence north until it shall intersect the territorial line between the United States and Canada, shall, for the purpose of temporary government, constitute a separate territory, and be called the Indiana Territory.”

After providing for the exercise of the civil and criminal powers of the territories, and other provisions, the Act further provides:

“That until it shall otherwise be ordered by the Legislatures of the said Territories, respectively, Chillicothe on the Scioto River shall be the seat of government of the Territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio River; and that St. Vincennes on the Wabash River shall be the seat of government for the Indiana Territory.”

Gen. Wm. Henry Harrison was appointed Governor of the Indiana Territory, and entered upon his duties about a year later. Connecticut also about this time released her claims to the reserve, and in March a law



was passed accepting this cession. Settlements had been made upon thirty-five of the townships in the reserve, mills had been built, and seven hundred miles of road cut in various directions. On the 3d of November the General Assembly met at Chillicothe. Near the close of the year, the first missionary of the Connecticut Reserve came, who found no township containing more than eleven families. It was upon the first of October that the secret treaty had been made between Napoleon and the King of Spain, whereby the latter agreed to cede to France the province of Louisiana.

In January, 1802, the Assembly of the Northwestern Territory chartered the college at Athens. From the earliest dawn of the western colonies, education was promptly provided for, and as early as 1787, newspapers were issued from Pittsburgh and Kentucky, and largely read throughout the frontier settlements. Before the close of this year, the Congress of the United States granted to the citizens of the Northwestern territory the formation of a State government. One of the provisions of the "compact of 1787" provided that whenever the number of inhabitants within prescribed limits exceeded 45,000, they should be entitled to a separate government. The prescribed limits of Ohio contained, from a census taken to ascertain the legality of the act, more than that number, and on the 30th of April, 1802, Congress passed the act defining its limits, and on the 29th of November the Constitution of the new State of Ohio, so named from the beautiful river forming its southern boundary, came into existence. The exact limits of Lake Michigan were not then known, but the territory now included within the State of Michigan was wholly within the territory of Indiana.

Gen. Harrison, while residing at Vincennes, made several treaties with the Indians, thereby gaining large tracts of lands. The next year is memorable in the history of the West for the purchase of Louisiana from France by the United States for \$15,000,000. Thus by a peaceful mode, the domain of the United States was extended over a large tract of country west of the Mississippi, and was for a time under the jurisdiction of the Northwest government, and, as has been mentioned in the early part of this narrative, was called the "New Northwest." The limits of this history will not allow a description of its territory. The same year large grants of land were obtained from the Indians, and the House of Representatives of the new State of Ohio signed a bill respecting the College Township in the district of Cincinnati.

Before the close of the year, Gen. Harrison obtained additional grants of lands from the various Indian nations in Indiana and the present limits of Illinois, and on the 18th of August, 1804, completed a treaty at St. Louis, whereby over 51,000,000 acres of lands were obtained from the





aborigines. Measures were also taken to learn the condition of affairs in and about Detroit.

C. Jouett, the Indian agent in Michigan, still a part of Indiana Territory, reported as follows upon the condition of matters at that post:

"The Town of Detroit.—The charter, which is for fifteen miles square, was granted in the time of Louis XIV. of France, and is now, from the best information I have been able to get, at Quebec. Of those two hundred and twenty-five acres, only four are occupied by the town and Fort Lenault. The remainder is a common, except twenty-four acres, which were added twenty years ago to a farm belonging to Wm. Macomb. \* \* \* A stockade incloses the town, fort and citadel. The pickets, as well as the public houses, are in a state of gradual decay. The streets are narrow, straight and regular, and intersect each other at right angles. The houses are, for the most part, low and inelegant."

During this year, Congress granted a township of land for the support of a college, and began to offer inducements for settlers in these wilds, and the country now comprising the State of Michigan began to fill rapidly with settlers along its southern borders. This same year, also, a law was passed organizing the Southwest Territory, dividing it into two portions, the Territory of New Orleans, which city was made the seat of government, and the District of Louisiana, which was annexed to the domain of Gen. Harrison.

On the 11th of January, 1805, the Territory of Michigan was formed, Wm. Hull was appointed governor, with headquarters at Detroit, the change to take effect on June 30. On the 11th of that month, a fire occurred at Detroit, which destroyed almost every building in the place. When the officers of the new territory reached the post, they found it in ruins, and the inhabitants scattered throughout the country. Rebuilding, however, soon commenced, and ere long the town contained more houses than before the fire, and many of them much better built.

While this was being done, Indiana had passed to the second grade of government, and through her General Assembly had obtained large tracts of land from the Indian tribes. To all this the celebrated Indian, Tecumthe or Tecumseh, vigorously protested, and it was the main cause of his attempts to unite the various Indian tribes in a conflict with the settlers. To obtain a full account of these attempts, the workings of the British, and the signal failure, culminating in the death of Tecumseh at the battle of the Thames, and the close of the war of 1812 in the Northwest, we will step aside in our story, and relate the principal events of his life, and his connection with this conflict.





TECUMSEH, THE SHAWANOE CHIEFTAIN.





## TECUMSEH, AND THE WAR OF 1812.

This famous Indian chief was born about the year 1768, not far from the site of the present City of Piqua, Ohio. His father, Puckeshinwa, was a member of the Kisopok tribe of the Swanoese nation, and his mother, Methontaske, was a member of the Turtle tribe of the same people. They removed from Florida about the middle of the last century to the birthplace of Tecumseh. In 1774, his father, who had risen to be chief, was slain at the battle of Point Pleasant, and not long after Tecumseh, by his bravery, became the leader of his tribe. In 1795 he was declared chief, and then lived at Deer Creek, near the site of the present City of Urbana. He remained here about one year, when he returned to Piqua, and in 1798, he went to White River, Indiana. In 1805, he and his brother, Laulewasikan (Open Door), who had announced himself as a prophet, went to a tract of land on the Wabash River, given them by the Pottawatomies and Kickapoos. From this date the chief comes into prominence. He was now about thirty-seven years of age, was five feet and ten inches in height, was stoutly built, and possessed of enormous powers of endurance. His countenance was naturally pleasing, and he was, in general, devoid of those savage attributes possessed by most Indians. It is stated he could read and write, and had a confidential secretary and adviser, named Billy Caldwell, a half-breed, who afterward became chief of the Pottawatomies. He occupied the first house built on the site of Chicago. At this time, Tecumseh entered upon the great work of his life. He had long objected to the grants of land made by the Indians to the whites, and determined to unite all the Indian tribes into a league, in order that no treaties or grants of land could be made save by the consent of this confederation.

He traveled constantly, going from north to south; from the south to the north, everywhere urging the Indians to this step. He was a matchless orator, and his burning words had their effect.

Gen. Harrison, then Governor of Indiana, by watching the movements of the Indians, became convinced that a grand conspiracy was forming, and made preparations to defend the settlements. Tecumseh's plan was similar to Pontiac's, elsewhere described, and to the cunning artifice of that chieftain was added his own sagacity.

During the year 1809, Tecumseh and the prophet were actively preparing for the work. In that year, Gen. Harrison entered into a treaty with the Delawares, Kickapoos, Pottawatomies, Miamis, Eel River Indians and Weas, in which these tribes ceded to the whites certain lands upon the Wabash, to all of which Tecumseh entered a bitter protest, averring



as one principal reason that he did not want the Indians to give up any lands north and west of the Ohio River.

Tecumseh, in August, 1810, visited the General at Vincennes and held a council relating to the grievances of the Indians. Becoming unduly angry at this conference he was dismissed from the village, and soon after departed to incite the southern Indian tribes to the conflict.

Gen. Harrison determined to move upon the chief's headquarters at Tippecanoe, and for this purpose went about sixty-five miles up the Wabash, where he built Fort Harrison. From this place he went to the prophet's town, where he informed the Indians he had no hostile intentions, provided they were true to the existing treaties. He encamped near the village early in October, and on the morning of November 7, he was attacked by a large force of the Indians, and the famous battle of Tippecanoe occurred. The Indians were routed and their town broken up. Tecumseh returning not long after, was greatly exasperated at his brother, the prophet, even threatening to kill him for rashly precipitating the war, and foiling his (Tecumseh's) plans.

Tecumseh sent word to Gen. Harrison that he was now returned from the South, and was ready to visit the President as had at one time previously been proposed. Gen. Harrison informed him he could not go as a chief, which method Tecumseh desired, and the visit was never made.

In June of the following year, he visited the Indian agent at Fort Wayne. Here he disavowed any intention to make a war against the United States, and reproached Gen. Harrison for marching against his people. The agent replied to this; Tecumseh listened with a cold indifference, and after making a few general remarks, with a haughty air drew his blanket about him, left the council house, and departed for Fort Malden, in Upper Canada, where he joined the British standard.

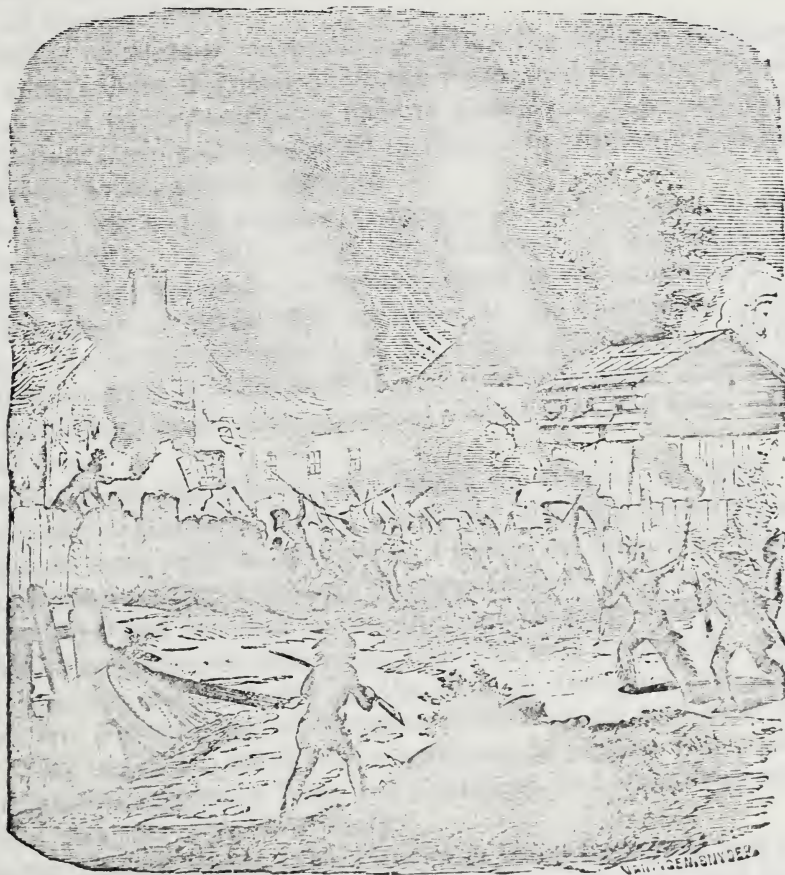
He remained under this Government, doing effective work for the Crown while engaged in the war of 1812 which now opened. He was, however, always humane in his treatment of the prisoners, never allowing his warriors to ruthlessly mutilate the bodies of those slain, or wantonly murder the captive.

In the Summer of 1813, Perry's victory on Lake Erie occurred, and shortly after active preparations were made to capture Malden. On the 27th of September, the American army, under Gen. Harrison, set sail for the shores of Canada, and in a few hours stood around the ruins of Malden, from which the British army, under Proctor, had retreated to Sandwich, intending to make its way to the heart of Canada by the Valley of the Thames. On the 29th Gen. Harrison was at Sandwich, and Gen. McArthur took possession of Detroit and the territory of Michigan.





On the 2d of October, the Americans began their pursuit of Proctor, whom they overtook on the 5th, and the battle of the Thames followed. Early in the engagement, Tecumseh who was at the head of the column of Indians was slain, and they, no longer hearing the voice of their chief-tain, fled. The victory was decisive, and practically closed the war in the Northwest.



INDIANS ATTACKING A STOCKADE.

Just who killed the great chief has been a matter of much dispute; but the weight of opinion awards the act to Col. Richard M. Johnson, who fired at him with a pistol, the shot proving fatal.

In 1805 occurred Burr's Insurrection. He took possession of a beautiful island in the Ohio, after the killing of Hamilton, and is charged by many with attempting to set up an independent government. His plans were frustrated by the general government, his property confiscated and he was compelled to flee the country for safety.



In January, 1807, Governor Hull, of Michigan Territory, made a treaty with the Indians, whereby all that peninsula was ceded to the United States. Before the close of the year, a stockade was built about Detroit. It was also during this year that Indiana and Illinois endeavored to obtain the repeal of that section of the compact of 1787, whereby slavery was excluded from the Northwest Territory. These attempts, however, all signally failed.

In 1809 it was deemed advisable to divide the Indiana Territory. This was done, and the Territory of Illinois was formed from the western part, the seat of government being fixed at Kaskaskia. The next year, the intentions of Tecumseh manifested themselves in open hostilities, and then began the events already narrated.

While this war was in progress, emigration to the West went on with surprising rapidity. In 1811, under Mr. Roosevelt of New York, the first steamboat trip was made on the Ohio, much to the astonishment of the natives, many of whom fled in terror at the appearance of the "monster." It arrived at Louisville on the 10th day of October. At the close of the first week of January, 1812, it arrived at Natchez, after being nearly overwhelmed in the great earthquake which occurred while on its downward trip.

The battle of the Thames was fought on October 6, 1813. It effectually closed hostilities in the Northwest, although peace was not fully restored until July 22, 1814, when a treaty was formed at Greenville, under the direction of General Harrison, between the United States and the Indian tribes, in which it was stipulated that the Indians should cease hostilities against the Americans if the war were continued. Such, happily, was not the case, and on the 24th of December the treaty of Ghent was signed by the representatives of England and the United States. This treaty was followed the next year by treaties with various Indian tribes throughout the West and Northwest, and quiet was again restored in this part of the new world.

On the 18th of March, 1816, Pittsburgh was incorporated as a city. It then had a population of 8,000 people, and was already noted for its manufacturing interests. On April 19, Indiana Territory was allowed to form a state government. At that time there were thirteen counties organized, containing about sixty-three thousand inhabitants. The first election of state officers was held in August, when Jonathan Jennings was chosen Governor. The officers were sworn in on November 7, and on December 11, the State was formally admitted into the Union. For some time the seat of government was at Corydon, but a more central location being desirable, the present capital, Indianapolis (City of Indiana), was laid out January 1, 1825.





On the 28th of December the Bank of Illinois, at Shawneetown, was chartered, with a capital of \$300,000. At this period all banks were under the control of the States, and were allowed to establish branches at different convenient points.

Until this time Chillicothe and Cincinnati had in turn enjoyed the privileges of being the capital of Ohio. But the rapid settlement of the northern and eastern portions of the State demanded, as in Indiana, a more central location, and before the close of the year, the site of Columbus was selected and surveyed as the future capital of the State. Banking had begun in Ohio as early as 1808, when the first bank was chartered at Marietta, but here as elsewhere it did not bring to the state the hoped-for assistance. It and other banks were subsequently unable to redeem their currency, and were obliged to suspend.

In 1818, Illinois was made a state, and all the territory north of her northern limits was erected into a separate territory and joined to Michigan for judicial purposes. By the following year, navigation of the lakes was increasing with great rapidity and affording an immense source of revenue to the dwellers in the Northwest, but it was not until 1826 that the trade was extended to Lake Michigan, or that steamships began to navigate the bosom of that inland sea.

Until the year 1832, the commencement of the Black Hawk War, but few hostilities were experienced with the Indians. Roads were opened, canals were dug, cities were built, common schools were established, universities were founded, many of which, especially the Michigan University, have achieved a world wide-reputation. The people were becoming wealthy. The domains of the United States had been extended, and had the sons of the forest been treated with honesty and justice, the record of many years would have been that of peace and continuous prosperity.

### BLACK HAWK AND THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

This conflict, though confined to Illinois, is an important epoch in the Northwestern history, being the last war with the Indians in this part of the United States.

Ma-ka-tai-me-she-kia-kiah, or Black Hawk, was born in the principal Sac village, about three miles from the junction of Rock River with the Mississippi, in the year 1767. His father's name was Py-e-sa or Pahaes; his grandfather's, Na-na-ma-kee, or the Thunderer. Black Hawk early distinguished himself as a warrior, and at the age of fifteen was permitted to paint and was ranked among the braves. About the year 1783, he went on an expedition against the enemies of his nation, the Osages, one





BLACK HAWK, THE SAC CHIEFTAIN.





of whom he killed and scalped, and for this deed of Indian bravery he was permitted to join in the scalp dance. Three or four years after he, at the head of two hundred braves, went on another expedition against the Osages, to avenge the murder of some women and children belonging to his own tribe. Meeting an equal number of Osage warriors, a fierce battle ensued, in which the latter tribe lost one-half their number. The Sacs lost only about nineteen warriors. He next attacked the Cherokees for a similar cause. In a severe battle with them, near the present City of St. Louis, his father was slain, and Black Hawk, taking possession of the "Medicine Bag," at once announced himself chief of the Sac nation. He had now conquered the Cherokees, and about the year 1800, at the head of five hundred Sacs and Foxes, and a hundred Iowas, he waged war against the Osage nation and subdued it. For two years he battled successfully with other Indian tribes, all of whom he conquered.

Black Hawk does not at any time seem to have been friendly to the Americans. When on a visit to St. Louis to see his "Spanish Father," he declined to see any of the Americans, alleging, as a reason, he did not want *two* fathers.

The treaty at St. Louis was consummated in 1804. The next year the United States Government erected a fort near the head of the Des Moines Rapids, called Fort Edwards. This seemed to enrage Black Hawk, who at once determined to capture Fort Madison, standing on the west side of the Mississippi above the mouth of the Des Moines River. The fort was garrisoned by about fifty men. Here he was defeated. The difficulties with the British Government arose about this time, and the War of 1812 followed. That government, extending aid to the Western Indians, by giving them arms and ammunition, induced them to remain hostile to the Americans. In August, 1812, Black Hawk, at the head of about five hundred braves, started to join the British forces at Detroit, passing on his way the site of Chicago, where the famous Fort Dearborn Massacre a few days before occurred. Of his connection with the British Government but little is known. In 1813 he with his little band descended the Mississippi, and attacking some United States troops at Fort Howard was defeated.

In the early part of 1815, the Indian tribes west of the Mississippi were notified that peace had been declared between the United States and England, and nearly all hostilities had ceased. Black Hawk did not sign any treaty, however, until May of the following year. He then recognized the validity of the treaty at St. Louis in 1804. From the time of signing this treaty in 1816, until the breaking out of the war in 1832, he and his band passed their time in the common pursuits of Indian life.

Ten years before the commencement of this war, the Sac and Fox



Indians were urged to join the Iowas on the west bank of the Father of Waters. All were agreed, save the band known as the British Band, of which Black Hawk was leader. He strenuously objected to the removal, and was induced to comply only after being threatened with the power of the Government. This and various actions on the part of the white settlers provoked Black Hawk and his band to attempt the capture of his native village now occupied by the whites. The war followed. He and his actions were undoubtedly misunderstood, and had his wishes been acquiesced in at the beginning of the struggle, much bloodshed would have been prevented.

Black Hawk was chief now of the Sac and Fox nations, and a noted warrior. He and his tribe inhabited a village on Rock River, nearly three miles above its confluence with the Mississippi, where the tribe had lived many generations. When that portion of Illinois was reserved to them, they remained in peaceable possession of their reservation, spending their time in the enjoyment of Indian life. The fine situation of their village and the quality of their lands incited the more lawless white settlers, who from time to time began to encroach upon the red men's domain. From one pretext to another, and from one step to another, the crafty white men gained a foothold, until through whisky and artifice they obtained deeds from many of the Indians for their possessions. The Indians were finally induced to cross over the Father of Waters and locate among the Iowas. Black Hawk was strenuously opposed to all this, but as the authorities of Illinois and the United States thought this the best move, he was forced to comply. Moreover other tribes joined the whites and urged the removal. Black Hawk would not agree to the terms of the treaty made with his nation for their lands, and as soon as the military, called to enforce his removal, had retired, he returned to the Illinois side of the river. A large force was at once raised and marched against him. On the evening of May 14, 1832, the first engagement occurred between a band from this army and Black Hawk's band, in which the former were defeated.

This attack and its result aroused the whites. A large force of men was raised, and Gen. Scott hastened from the seaboard, by way of the lakes, with United States troops and artillery to aid in the subjugation of the Indians. On the 24th of June, Black Hawk, with 200 warriors, was repulsed by Major Demont between Rock River and Galena. The American army continued to move up Rock River toward the main body of the Indians, and on the 21st of July came upon Black Hawk and his band, and defeated them near the Blue Mounds.

Before this action, Gen. Henry, in command, sent word to the main army by whom he was immediately rejoined, and the whole crossed the





Wisconsin in pursuit of Black Hawk and his band who were fleeing to the Mississippi. They were overtaken on the 2d of August, and in the battle which followed the power of the Indian chief was completely broken. He fled, but was seized by the Winnebagoes and delivered to the whites.

On the 21st of September, 1832, Gen. Scott and Gov. Reynolds concluded a treaty with the Winnebagoes, Sacs and Foxes by which they ceded to the United States a vast tract of country, and agreed to remain peaceable with the whites. For the faithful performance of the provisions of this treaty on the part of the Indians, it was stipulated that Black Hawk, his two sons, the prophet Wabokieshiek, and six other chiefs of the hostile bands should be retained as hostages during the pleasure of the President. They were confined at Fort Barracks and put in irons.

The next Spring, by order of the Secretary of War, they were taken to Washington. From there they were removed to Fortress Monroe, "there to remain until the conduct of their nation was such as to justify their being set at liberty." They were retained here until the 4th of June, when the authorities directed them to be taken to the principal cities so that they might see the folly of contending against the white people. Everywhere they were observed by thousands, the name of the old chief being extensively known. By the middle of August they reached Fort Armstrong on Rock Island, where Black Hawk was soon after released to go to his countrymen. As he passed the site of his birthplace, now the home of the white man, he was deeply moved. His village where he was born, where he had so happily lived, and where he had hoped to die, was now another's dwelling place, and he was a wanderer.

On the next day after his release, he went at once to his tribe and his lodge. His wife was yet living, and with her he passed the remainder of his days. To his credit it may be said that Black Hawk always remained true to his wife, and served her with a devotion uncommon among the Indians, living with her upward of forty years.

Black Hawk now passed his time hunting and fishing. A deep melancholy had settled over him from which he could not be freed. At all times when he visited the whites he was received with marked attention. He was an honored guest at the old settlers' reunion in Lee County, Illinois, at some of their meetings, and received many tokens of esteem. In September, 1838, while on his way to Rock Island to receive his annuity from the Government, he contracted a severe cold which resulted in a fatal attack of bilious fever which terminated his life on October 3. His faithful wife, who was devotedly attached to him, mourned deeply during his sickness. After his death he was dressed in the uniform presented to him by the President while in Washington. He was buried in a grave six feet in depth, situated upon a beautiful eminence. "The



body was placed in the middle of the grave, in a sitting posture, upon a seat constructed for the purpose. On his left side, the cane, given him by Henry Clay, was placed upright, with his right hand resting upon it. Many of the old warrior's trophies were placed in the grave, and some Indian garments, together with his favorite weapons."

No sooner was the Black Hawk war concluded than settlers began rapidly to pour into the northern parts of Illinois, and into Wisconsin, now free from Indian depredations. Chicago, from a trading post, had grown to a commercial center, and was rapidly coming into prominence. In 1835, the formation of a State Government in Michigan was discussed, but did not take active form until two years later, when the State became a part of the Federal Union.

The main attraction to that portion of the Northwest lying west of Lake Michigan, now included in the State of Wisconsin, was its alluvial wealth. Copper ore was found about Lake Superior. For some time this region was attached to Michigan for judiciary purposes, but in 1834 was made a territory, then including Minnesota and Iowa. The latter State was detached two years later. In 1848, Wisconsin was admitted as a State, Madison being made the capital. We have now traced the various divisions of the Northwest Territory (save a little in Minnesota) from the time it was a unit comprising this vast territory, until circumstances compelled its present division.





## CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ITS AMENDMENTS.

*We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.*

### ARTICLE I.

SECTION 1. All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

SEC. 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several states, and the electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State Legislature.

No person shall be a representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years, and been seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several states which may be included within this Union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons. The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. The number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, but each state shall have at least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to choose three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the representation from any state, the Executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker and other officers, and shall have the sole power of impeachment.

SEC. 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each state, chosen by the Legislature thereof for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three classes. The seats of the Senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expira-



tion of the second year, of the second class at the expiration of the fourth year, and of the third class at the expiration of the sixth year, so that one-third may be chosen every second year; and if vacancies happen by resignation or otherwise, during the recess of the Legislature of any state, the Executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies.

No person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the age of thirty years and been nine years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state for which he shall be chosen.

The Vice-President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no vote unless they be equally divided.

The Senate shall choose their other officers, and also a President *pro tempore*, in the absence of the Vice-President, or when he shall exercise the office of President of the United States.

The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments. When sitting for that purpose they shall be on oath or affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried the Chief Justice shall preside. And no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

Judgment, in cases of impeachment, shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States; but the party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment according to law.

SEC. 4. The times, places and manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives shall be prescribed in each state by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by law make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

SEC. 5. Each house shall be the judge of the election, returns, and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as each house may provide.

Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member.

Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such parts as may, in their judgment, require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either house on any question shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journal.

Neither house, during the session of Congress, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

SEC. 6. The Senators and Representatives shall receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the treasury of the United States. They shall in all cases, except treason,







felony, and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either house they shall not be questioned in any other place.

No Senator or Representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no person holding any office under the United States, shall be a member of either house during his continuance in office.

SEC. 7. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

Every bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the President of the United States; if he approve he shall sign it; but if not he shall return it, with his objections, to that house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration two-thirds of that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two-thirds of that house, it shall become a law. But in all such cases the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the President within ten days (Sundays excepted), after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress, by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

Every order, resolution, or vote to which the concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of adjournment), shall be presented to the President of the United States, and before the same shall take effect shall be approved by him, or, being disapproved by him, shall be re-passed by two-thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

SEC. 8. The Congress shall have power—

To lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts, and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts, and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes;

To establish a uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures;

To provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States;

To establish post offices and post roads;



To promote the progress of sciences and useful arts, by securing, for limited times, to authors and inventors, the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries;

To constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court;

To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations;

To declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water;

To raise and support armies, but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years;

To provide and maintain a navy;

To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces;

To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections, and repel invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the states respectively the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise legislation in all cases whatsoever over such district (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of particular states, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of the government of the United States, and to exercise like authority over all places purchased by the consent of the Legislature of the state in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dock yards, and other needful buildings; and

To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

SEC. 9. The migration or importation of such persons as any of the states now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each person.

The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

No bill of attainder or *ex post facto* law shall be passed.

No capitation or other direct tax shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration hereinbefore directed to be taken.

No tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any state.

No preference shall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one state over those of another; nor shall vessels bound to or from one state be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

No money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expeditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.







No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States: and no person holding any office of profit or trust under them, shall, without the consent of the Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign state.

SEC. 10. No state shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts; pass any bill of attainder, *ex post facto* law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility.

No state shall, without the consent of the Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws, and the net produce of all duties and imposts laid by any state on imports or exports, shall be for the use of the Treasury of the United States; and all such laws shall be subject to the revision and control of the Congress.

No state shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty on tonnage, keep troops or ships of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another state, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

## ARTICLE II.

SECTION 1. The Executive power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the Vice-President chosen for the same term, be elected as follows:

Each state shall appoint, in such manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a number of Electors, equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives to which the state may be entitled in the Congress; but no Senator or Representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.

[\*The Electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for two persons, of whom one at least shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves. And they shall make a list of all the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit, sealed, to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately choose by ballot one of them for President; and if no person have a majority, then from the five highest on the list the said House shall in like manner choose the President. But in choosing the President, the vote shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. In every case, after the choice of the President

\* This clause between brackets has been superseded and annulled by the Twelfth amendment.



the person having the greatest number of votes of the Electors shall be the Vice-President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal votes, the Senate shall choose from them by ballot the Vice-President.]

The Congress may determine the time of choosing the Electors, and the day on which they shall give their votes; which day shall be the same throughout the United States.

No person except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a resident within the United States.

In case of the removal of the President from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the Vice-President, and the Congress may by law provide for the case of removal, death, resignation, or inability, both of the President and Vice-President, declaring what officer shall then act as President, and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

The President shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States or any of them.

Before he enters on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."

SEC. 2. The President shall be commander in chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several states, when called into the actual service of the United States; he may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices, and he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardon for offenses against the United States, except in cases of impeachment.

He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law; but the Congress may by law vest the appointment of such inferior officers as they think proper in the President alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

The President shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of their next session.

SEC. 3. He shall from time to time give to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may on extraordinary







occasions convene both houses, or either of them. and in case of disagreement between them, with respect to the time of adjournment. he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper; he shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers; he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and shall commission all the officers of the United States.

SEC. 4. The President, Vice-President, and all civil officers of the United States, shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

### ARTICLE III.

SECTION I. The judicial power of the United States shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and such inferior courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the Supreme and inferior courts, shall hold their offices during good behavior, and shall, at stated times, receive for their services a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

SEC. 2. The judicial power shall extend to all cases, in law and equity, arising under this Constitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which shall be made, under their authority; to all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers, and consuls; to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction; to controversies to which the United States shall be a party; to controversies between two or more states; between a state and citizens of another state; between citizens of different states; between citizens of the same state claiming lands under grants of different states, and between a state or the citizens thereof, and foreign states, citizens, or subjects.

In all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers, and consuls, and those in which a state shall be a party, the Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction.

In all the other cases before mentioned, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions and under such regulations as the Congress shall make.

The trial of all crimes, except in cases of impeachment, shall be by jury; and such trial shall be held in the state where the said crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any state, the trial shall be at such place or places as the Congress may by law have directed.

SEC. 3. Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

The Congress shall have power to declare the punishment of treason but no attainder of treason shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture except during the life of the person attainted.

### ARTICLE IV.

SECTION 1. Full faith and credit shall be given in each state to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other state. And



the Congress may, by general laws, prescribe the manner in which such acts, records, and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof.

SEC. 2. The citizens of each state shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states.

A person charged in any state with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice and be found in another state, shall, on demand of the executive authority of the state from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the state having jurisdiction of the crime.

No person held to service or labor in one state, under the laws thereof escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on the claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due.

SEC. 3. New states may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new state shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other state; nor any state be formed by the junction of two or more states, or parts of states, without the consent of the Legislatures of the states concerned, as well as of the Congress.

The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States or of any particular state.

SEC. 4. The United States shall guarantee to every state in this Union a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion, and on application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature can not be convened), against domestic violence.

#### ARTICLE V.

The Congress, whenever two-thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or, on the application of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress. Provided that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no state, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.

#### ARTICLE VI.

All debts contracted and engagements entered into before the adoption of this Constitution shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution as under the Confederation.

This Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof, and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and the Judges in every state shall be bound thereby, anything in the Constitution or laws of any state to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the mem-







bers of the several state Legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the several states, shall be bound by oath or affirmation to support this Constitution; but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.

## ARTICLE VII.

The ratification of the Conventions of nine states shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution between the states so ratifying the same.

Done in convention by the unanimous consent of the states present. the seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, and of the independence of the United States of America the twelfth. In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names.

GEO. WASHINGTON,

*President and Deputy from Virginia.*

*New Hampshire.*

JOHN LANGDON,  
NICHOLAS GILMAN.

*Massachusetts.*

NATHANIEL GORHAM,  
RUFUS KING.

*Connecticut.*

WM. SAM'L JOHNSON,  
ROGER SHERMAN.

*New York.*

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

*New Jersey.*

WIL. LIVINGSTON,  
WM. PATERSON,  
DAVID BREARLEY,  
JONA. DAYTON.

*Pennsylvania.*

B. FRANKLIN,  
ROBT. MORRIS,  
THOS. FITZSIMONS,  
JAMES WILSON,  
THOS. MIFFLIN,  
GEO. CLYMER,  
JARED INGERSOLL,  
GOUV. MORRIS.

*Delaware.*

GEO. READ,  
JOHN DICKINSON,  
JACO. BROOM,  
GUNNING BEDFORD, JR.,  
RICHARD BASSETT.

*Maryland.*

JAMES M'HENRY,  
DANL. CARROLL,  
DAN. OF ST. THOS. JENIFER.

*Virginia.*

JOHN BLAIR,  
JAMES MADISON, JR.

*North Carolina.*

WM. BLOUNT,  
HU. WILLIAMSON,  
RICH'D DOBBS SPAIGHT.

*South Carolina.*

J. RUTLEDGE,  
CHARLES PINCKNEY,  
CHAS. COTESWORTH PINCKNEY,  
PIERCE BUTLER.

*Georgia.*

WILLIAM FEW,  
ABR. BALDWIN.

WILLIAM JACKSON, *Secretary.*



ARTICLES IN ADDITION TO AND AMENDATORY OF THE CONSTITUTION  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

*Proposed by Congress and ratified by the Legislatures of the several states,  
pursuant to the fifth article of the original Constitution.*

ARTICLE I.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

ARTICLE II.

A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

ARTICLE III.

No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

ARTICLE IV.

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated; and no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized.

ARTICLE V.

No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

ARTICLE VI.

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

ARTICLE VII.

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact





tried by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any court of the United States than according to the rules of the common law.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

#### ARTICLE IX.

The enumeration, in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

#### ARTICLE X.

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

#### ARTICLE XI.

The judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by citizens of another state, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign state.

#### ARTICLE XII.

The Electors shall meet in their respective states and vote by ballot for President and Vice-President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person to be voted for as president, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice-President, and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President, and of all persons voted for as Vice-President, and of the number of votes for each, which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted. The person having the greatest number of votes for President shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest number not exceeding three on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by States, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice-President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President. The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice-President, shall be the Vice-President, if such number be the majority of the whole number of electors appointed, and if no person have a major-



ity, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice-President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice-President of the United States.

### ARTICLE XIII.

SECTION 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

### ARTICLE XIV.

SECTION 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States, and of the state wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

SEC. 2. Representatives shall be appointed among the several states according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each state, excluding Indians not taxed; but when the right to vote at any election for the choice of Electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a state, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such state, being twenty-one years of age and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged except for participation in rebellion or other crimes, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such state.

SEC. 3. No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or Elector of President and Vice-President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any state, who, having previously taken an oath as a Member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any state Legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any state to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each house, remove such disability.

SEC. 4. The validity of the public debt of the United States authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any state shall pay any debt or obligation incurred in the aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any loss or emancipation of any slave, but such debts, obligations, and claims shall be held illegal and void.

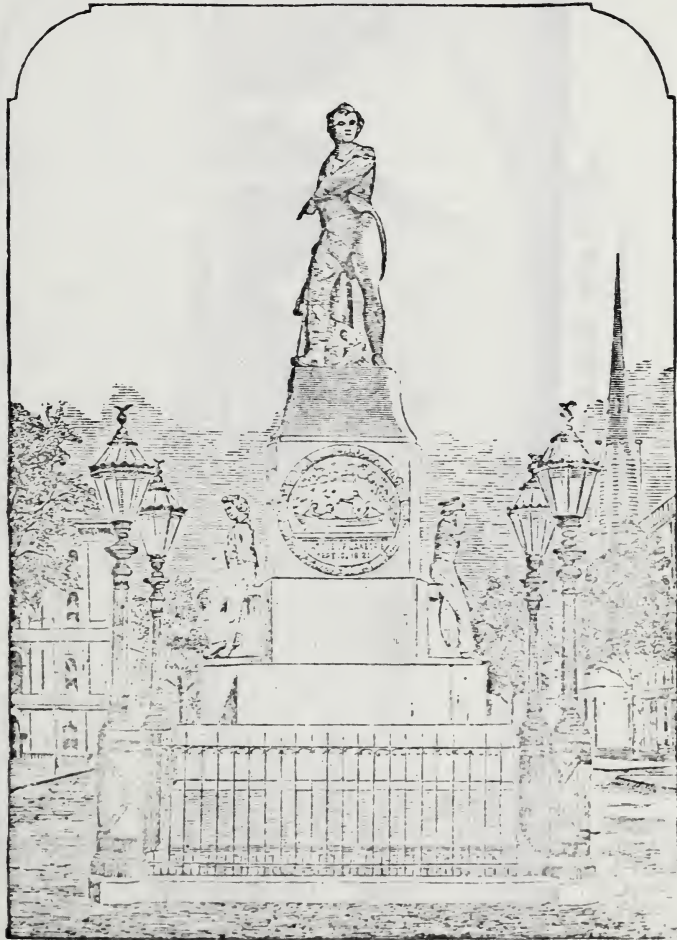






## ARTICLE XV.

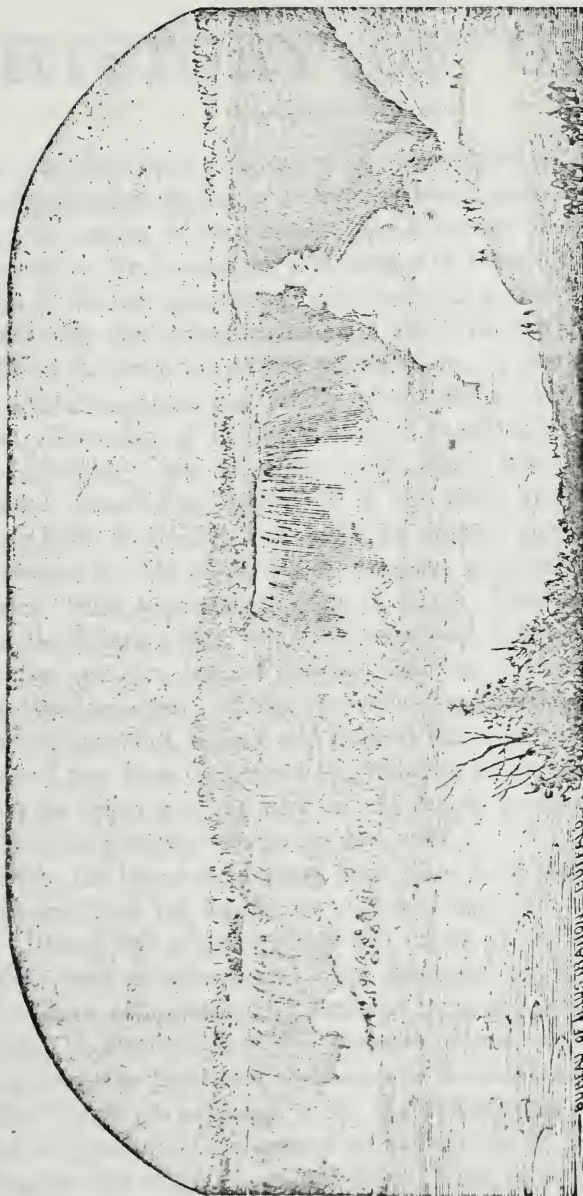
SECTION 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any State, on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.



PERRY'S MONUMENT, CLEVELAND, OHIO.

On Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway.





## VIEW OF NIAGARA FALLS.

Reached via Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway.





# HISTORY OF OHIO.

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IT is not our province in a volume of this description, to delineate the chronology of prehistoric epochs, or to dwell at length upon those topics pertaining to the scientific causes which tended to the formation of a continent, undiscovered for centuries, by the wisdom and energy of those making a history of the Old World, by the advancement of enlightenment in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Naturally, the geological formation of the State of Ohio cannot be entirely separated from facts relative to the strata, which, in remote ages accumulated one layer above the other, and finally constituted a "built-up" America, from a vast sea. The action of this huge body of water washed sediment and whatever came in its way upon primitive rocks, which were subjected to frequent and repeated submersions, emerging as the water subsided, thus leaving a stratum or layer to solidify and mark its number in the series—a system of growth repeated in trees of the forest—in those discernible rings that count so many years. The southeastern part of North America emerging a second time from the Silurian Sea, which extended west to the Rocky Mountains and north to the primitive hills of British America, a succession of rock-bound, salt-water lakes remained. These covered a large portion of the continent, and their water evaporating, organic and mineral matter remained to solidify. This thick stratum has been designated by geologists as the water-lime layer. This constitutes the upper layer of rock in the larger portion of the west half of Ohio. In other sections it forms the bed rock.

Following the lime-rock deposit, must have been more frequent sweeps of the great sea, since the layers are comparatively thin, proving a more speedy change. During this scientific rising and falling of the sea, other actions were taking place, such as volcanic and other influences which displaced the regularity of the strata, and occasionally came out in an upheaval or a regular perpendicular dip. A disturbance of this character formed the low mountain range extending from the highlands of Canada to the southern boundary of Tennessee. This "bulge" is supposed to be the consequence of the cooling of the earth and the pressure of the oceans on either side of the continent. Geologists designate this as the Cincinnati arch. This forms a separation between the coal fields of the Alleghanies and those of Illinois.

Passing over several periods, we reach the glacial, during which the topography of the continent was considerably modified, and which is among the latest epochs of geology, though exceedingly remote as compared with human



history. Previously, a torrid heat prevailed the entire Northern hemisphere. Now the temperature of the frigid zone crept southward until it reached Cincinnati. A vast field of ice, perhaps hundreds of feet thick, extended from the north pole to this point. As this glacial rigor came southward, the flow of the St. Lawrence River was stopped, and the surplus water of the great lake basin was turned into the Ohio and Mississippi. This glacial sea was by no means stationary even after its southern limit had been reached. It possessed the properties of a solid and a fluid. Its action was slow but powerful, grinding mountains to powder and forming great valleys and basins. Separating into two glacial portions, one moved toward the watershed north of the Ohio River; and, continuing westerly, it hollowed out the basin of Lake Erie and crushed the apex of the Cincinnati arch. From this point, it turned southward and swept with a regular course through the Maumee and Miami Valleys to the Ohio River. The southern border constantly melting, and flowing toward the Gulf of Mexico, the great field was pressed forward by the accumulations of ice in the northern latitudes. Thus for ages, this powerful force was fitting the earth for the habitation of man. The surface was leveled, huge rocks broken and reduced to pebbles, sand, clay, etc., other soil and surface-material—while the debris was embedded at the bottom. In some sections, as the ice melted and freed the bowlders and rocks, the lighter material was swept away. The glacier moving forward, and the forces proving an “equilibrium,” the edge of this ice-field was held in a solid stronghold, and the material thus deposited forms a ridge, called by geologists “terminal moraine,” first exemplified in Ohio by the “Black Swamp,” in the Maumee Valley.

The most extreme rigor of this period beginning to wane, the ice of the Maumee and Miami Valleys began to move slowly forward, toward the north, reaching the points now termed Hudson, Mich.; Fort Wayne, Ind., and Kenton, Ohio—reaching somewhat further south than Lima and Van Wert. The edge of the glacier was defined in outline by the present western border of Lake Erie, and parallel with it. Climatic influences “acting and counteracting,” the glacial force was concentrated, the Maumee Valley being subjected to a grinding process, and a deposit of material going on, which now forms the boundary of the “Black Swamp.” As our readers are aware, the waters of the St. Joseph and St. Mary’s meet at Fort Wayne, and their united waters form the Maumee; thence the turn is northwest, and, wearing an outlet through the ridge, it reaches the head of Lake Erie.

The torrid zone yet gaining the ascendancy, the ice-fields continuing their reverse motion, and retreating toward the north, the basin of the great lakes was formed; and the blocks of ice melting therein, a vast sea of fresh water was formed, which gradually overflowed a portion of Canada and Michigan. But the St. Lawrence, that important outlet, was under the restraint of an ice blockade, and the surplus water of the fresh sea was turned into the Ohio and Mississippi.







Later, mountains of ice-float were drifted from the north by winds and currents, into temperate latitudes, and melting, deposited rocks, stones and general debris. Following the iceberg-drift, came the permanent elevation above the ocean-level. The St. Lawrence outlet was formed. The inland sea was assuming its division into lakes. The united waters of Erie and Huron flowed through the Wabash Valley and into the Ohio, until, through some agency, that section was dry, and the lakes drained in another direction. The action of the glacial period in the Erie basin vicinity created what is known as the "Niagara limestone," by grinding upper strata and drifting the debris elsewhere. This seems to have occurred at intervals, exposures being made in Seneca, Sandusky and Wood Counties, and beneath the axis of the Cincinnati arch. Oriskany limestone is also available in another stratum, which has been brought to the surface. Again, there is a carboniferous stratum of limestone, and along the Maumee is a thin exposure of the Hamilton limestone and shale.

A glacier having both fluid and solid properties, it will readily be comprehended that obdurate projections of rock resisted its action, and created currents in other directions, for its forces. When this specified epoch had ceased to be, Ohio was a rough, irregular and crude mixture of ridges and knobs and pinnacles, which were "leveled up" and finished by iceberg-drift and inland-sea deposits. This settled and accumulated, and the work of hundreds of years produced a beautiful surface, its inequalities overcome, the water having receded and "terra firma" remaining. A deep bed of clay, sufficiently compact to hold the germs of organic matter, and sufficiently porous to absorb moisture, was especially adapted to encourage the growth of vegetation. These seeds had been brought by the winds and waves and natural agencies, and now began to produce plants and shrubs, which withered to enrich the soil, after scattering broadcast seeds that would again perpetuate verdure. Worms, land crabs and burrowing animals assisted in the creation of soil, while the buffalo, deer and bear followed, as soon as forestry appeared. Decomposed foliage and fallen timber aided in the great work of preparing the present State of Ohio for the habitation of man. Prairie, marsh, forest, rivers and lakes were formed, which, in turn, were modified and prepared for a grand destiny by other influences.

In glancing over the compiled histories of Ohio, those containing details of her early struggles, afflictions and triumphs, we are especially impressed with its near and sympathetic relation with the great Northwest, and the republic of the United States of America. From the early years when white men built their rude cabins in the then tangled wilderness, to the opulent and magnificent present of this united nation, Ohio has been stanch, loyal and earnest, both in action and principle.

We shall endeavor to trace the history of the State concisely and accurately, according to the data given by the most reliable historians. We are obliged to glean the prominent events only, our space being limited, compared with the multitudinous interests connected with this important part of the United States.



## FRENCH HISTORY.

All through early French history, is the fact especially prominent, that in their explorations and expeditions, they united piety and business. They were zealous in sending out their missionaries, but they were always attended by traders and those who were as skilled in the world's profit and loss, as their companions were in propagating Christianity.

Prior to the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers upon Plymouth Rock, the Upper Lakes were visited by the French, and records prove that during the first half of the seventeenth century, a vagabondish set, working in the interests of the fur company of New France, understood the geographical position of the lakes and their tributary streams. M. Perrot, an intelligent explorer, made overtures of peace to the Indian tribes around these bodies of water, and effected a treaty, which, it is claimed, established the right for the French, in the name of their king, to hold the place near St. Mary's Falls. They further assert that the Mississippi was discovered by the French from Lake Superior, but this is not authenticated, and Father Marquette and M. Joliet are accepted as the first who found this large stream, in 1763. The good missionary won his way with his patient and sympathetic nature.

Ohio was, like the other portions of the West, originally in the possession of aborigines or Indians. Of their origin, many suppositions are advanced, but no certainties sustained. From practical evidences, the Mound-Builders were active in Ohio, and here as elsewhere, their work marked retrogression rather than advancement. The territory of Ohio was claimed by the French, and included in that wide tract between the Alleghanies and the Rockies, held by them under the name of Louisiana. Before the year 1750, a French trading-post was established at the mouth of the Wabash, and communication was established between that point and the Maumee, and Canada. Between the years 1678 and 1682, the intrepid La Salle and Father Hennepin, assisted by Fondi, an Italian, with a small band of followers, inaugurated a series of explorations about the great lakes and the Mississippi, building forts on their way and planting the French priority. In 1680, La Salle erected a stockade at the foot of the rapids of the Maumee, which was a general rendezvous for missionaries, traders and explorers, besides constituting a primitive "stock exchange."

The English colonies were at this time east of the Alleghanies, while the French were establishing themselves west of this range, gaining an entrance north and south, the two portions separated by hostile and barbarous foes. La Salle's spirit of adventure led him into new fields, but Father Hennepin was detailed to investigate that part of the world now known as the State of Ohio. The records assert that he published a volume containing an account of his observations "in the country between New Mexico and the frozen ocean," in 1684, together with maps of Lakes Erie, Huron and Michigan, and a plat of the larger streams in Ohio.







Apparently, the French more speedily comprehended the value of their advantages in the New World than the English, and vigorously inaugurated and sustained commercial and religious projects. They were essentially benefited by the mediation of the Catholic priests between settlers and Indians, this really earnest class everywhere ingratiating themselves with the savages. The Order of Jesuits were very vigorous, and representatives were stationed at every trading-post, village and settlement. The English colonists engaged mostly in agriculture, while the French took a lively interest in the fur trade with the natives, probably from their former settlement in Quebec and thereabouts, where the climate is advantageous for this business. This added to the influence of the priests, and the natural assimilation of French and the Indians, through the tact and amiability of the former, the French possessions gained more rapidly than the English or Spanish. They courted their daughters and married them. They engaged in feasts and trades, and took advantage of those unimpeded times to extend their dominion with surprising celerity. A chain of trading, missionary and military posts extended from New Orleans to Quebec, by way of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, thence via Mackinaw and Detroit to Lakes Erie and Ontario. This route was shortened thereafter by following the Ohio River to the Wabash, following the latter upward, and down the Maumee to Lake Erie.

About the same time, and to check the advancement of the French, the Ohio Company was formed by the English. This was an outgrowth of the contest between these two nations for the ascendancy, whether empire, settlement or individual. After thirty years' peace between these two nations, "King George's War" opened the campaign in 1744, but terminated in 1748, the treaty at Aix-la-Chapelle unfortunately omitting a settlement of any division of claims in America. The English, French and Spanish were the first to enter America, and the right of possession by each monarch or empire was held by right of a first discovery. The only right that England could advance regarding Ohio was that the portion of the Six Nations found in the Ohio Valley had placed some of their lands under British jurisdiction, and that other portions had been purchased at Lancaster, Penn., by means of a treaty with the same nations. All this was strenuously denied and ignored by the French. Thus several conflicting influences swept carnage over fair Ohio. The Indians were allied to one side and the other, and were against each other. The Indians and French would advance against the English, and they, in retaliation, would make a raid into the Indian territory and overcome a French settlement. Whenever they could as well, Indians would take the cause in their own keeping and fight each other. The wide, verdant fields of Ohio were drenched ghastly red under a glowing sun, and the great forests echoed moans from the dying and distressed. The English colonists had partially overcome their deprivation, caused by a struggle for subsistence, and means to guard against the savages—this distress augmented by campaigns against Canada—by their



increased numbers and wealth, but were now alarmed by the French rule in America, which gained so rapidly, unmolested as it was by Indian raids and other devastating circumstances. A constant conflict was going on between Lake Erie and the Upper Ohio. Atrocities and massacres were committed indiscriminately, which opened the way for a desperate class of marauders and villains from the colonies and European States. These people enlisted with the Indians on either side for the purpose of leadership and plunder. Every fortification, trading-post and settlement was garrisoned or deserted, and the ground between the Alleghanies and the Maumee became a conflict field, rife with thrilling deeds, sacrifice and adventures, the half never having been chronicled, and many heroes falling uncrowned by even a lasting memory, since during these times the people kept few annals, and cared less for historical memories than anything on earth. They were living, and dying, and struggling, and that was more than they could carry through safely. The French formed a road from the Ohio River to Detroit, via the foot of the Lower Rapids of the Maumee, and the foot of the Lower Rapids of the Sandusky.

The Ohio Company obtained a charter under English views, from the British Government, with a grant of 6,000 acres of land on the Ohio. The English now reverted to the times of the Cabots, and protested that by right they held the entire country between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, bounded by those parallels of latitude defining their Atlantic coast settlements. France claimed the region drained by the Mississippi and tributaries, the great lakes and their tributaries, the area being west of the Alleghanies. Ohio was thus included in the disputed tract.

The Ohio Company was formed in 1748, by a number of Virginians and Londoners, two brothers of George Washington taking conspicuous parts in the movement; Thomas Lee was especially active. When the surveys were begun, the Governor of Canada entered vigorous protests, and indicated his displeasure by a prompt line of posts from Erie to Pittsburgh, named respectively, Presque Isle, Le Boeuf, Vedango, Kittaning and Du Quesne. The latter was begun by the English, captured by the French, and by them completed.

The first English settlement of which we can find traces was a block-house at Piqua, about the year 1752. It was attacked, and a bitter struggle ensued, resulting in the death of fourteen of the assailants. Those within the garrison suffered severely, many being burned, and the remainder captured and dispatched to Canada.

In 1753, the French and Indian war actively began. It did not extend beyond the American continent until 1756, when the home governments took an interest in its progress beyond encouraging their respective colonists to pursue the war-path to a direful finale for their adversaries. For four years, the French captured and conquered, spreading terror wherever they went, and they followed every Englishman that set his foot on Ohio soil to the death. We may state that these people had not retained their civilized habits, and







constant association with savages had embued them with barbarous methods of warfare which were sickening and revolting to the English, and to which they could not resort. It is highly probable that French success was vastly brought about by these means, together with the assistance of their Indian allies. In 1758, when the English hope was almost exterminated, the elder Pitt being placed at the head of the administration, a new and energetic system was inaugurated, wise measures instituted, and military science triumphed over savage cunning and French intrigue. The first brilliant English achievement was the conquest of Canada. When the home governments interfered, the war assumed the character of a French and English conflict, regardless of Indian right, yet the tribes continued to participate in the carnage.

A certain Christian, Frederick Post, a Moravian missionary, located upon the Muskingum, near Beavertown. Heckewelder consented to become his associate. The Indians receiving them kindly, under conditions that Post should serve as tutor, this missionary began clearing a field for the purpose of planting corn for sustenance. This did not accord with Indian logic. They had stipulated that he teach and he was planting corn, which to them was a signal of the coming of other whites, the building of a fort and encroachments upon the Indians. They referred to the French priests, who were in good physical condition, did not till land, but were in charge of the Great Spirit who provided for them, a conclusive proof to them that when divine work was acceptable to the Great Spirit, priests were somehow sustained by other than the plans which disturbed their great hunting-grounds. However, they allowed him a small space, and he remained with them, preaching and teaching during the summer of 1762, when, accompanied by one of the principal chiefs, he returned to Lancaster, Penn., where a treaty was concluded. On his return to his post, he was met by Heckewelder, who imparted the tidings that friendly Indians had warned him that the war was about to sweep over their section, and destruction awaited them if they remained. The mission was accordingly abandoned. This failure was not so bitter as the English effort to sustain their trading-post in 1749, on the Great Miami, afterward called Laramie's store. It pursued a feeble existence until 1752, when a French raid upon the Twig-twees and English colonists proved fatal.

A European treaty now excluded the French from any rights to make treaties with the Indians, and the English, in their flush of victory after Pitt's succession, assumed the authority over Indians and lands. The savages did not accept the situation with anything resembling the gentle spirit of resignation, and the Ottawa chief, Pontiac, led the several tribes into a general war against the intruders. It was no longer French and English, but Indian and English, the former being instigated and assisted many times by the French, now desperate and unscrupulous in a mad spirit for revenge.

The intention of the Indians was to drive the whites east of the mountains, destroying their numerous strongholds in Pennsylvania and Virginia, if they



failed in their hope of utterly exterminating them. Pontiac had effected a consolidation of the tribes ranging from Mackinaw to North Carolina, thus being enabled to swoop down upon all the settlements simultaneously. A deadly beginning was made in the Ohio Valley, and only two or three English traders escaped out of the one hundred and twenty located in that vicinity. The forts at Presque Isle, St. Joseph and Mackinaw, were captured amid scenes of slaughter too terrible to perpetuate in description. The years 1763 and 1764 were literally drenched in human carnage and anguish. Ohio was a great field of crime, murder, pain and horror. The expeditions of Bradstreet and Bouquet crushed the war in 1764, and Pontiac with his Ottawas removed to the Maumee and settled. English settlement now progressed with great rapidity, but this was destined to be disturbed in 1774, by the action of Lord Dunmore, who led an expedition against the tribes of the Ohio country, terminated by his treaty on the Scioto plains. At this period, the colonists were not in strict harmony with England, and the spirit of revolution was spreading every day.

When Lord Dunmore made his treaty, the affirmation was made and gained ground that he, being a thorough loyalist, had compromised under such terms as held the Indians British allies against the settlers. Directly following this treaty, was the deliberate murder of a number of Indians, near Wheeling, including the family of the great chief, Logan—which inaugurated retaliating atrocities.

In the year 1781, April 16, the first white child was born within the present limits of Ohio, and was christened Mary Heckewelder, daughter of a Moravian missionary. All the settlers of these Moravian towns on the Muskingum were made prisoners in September of the same year. Heckewelder was transported to Detroit, but English tyranny failed to find any evidence against him or his collaborators, and they were reluctantly released, and returned to their families in Sandusky. Poverty added to their sufferings, and in the forlorn hope of finding a remnant of their property at the old settlements, which might assist in mitigating their necessities, they wearily went thitherward. They began gathering their grain, but the Wyandots attacked them, and many lives were lost. Frontiersmen had also grown jealous of them, and a body of about ninety marched out together, for the fiendish purpose of pillaging, slaughtering and laying waste all Moravian towns and posts. With the wily insidiousness of savages, they went about their diabolical plan. The Moravians were cordial and bade this band welcome, when they reached their towns in the guise of friendship. Williamson, the leader, and the gleaners, were called from the fields, when, to the dismay of these trusting and frank people, they were all bound, and only fifteen out of the marauding band of ninety were in favor of even sparing the lives of these hapless men, women and children. Forty men, twenty-two women and thirty-four children were then cruelly and heartlessly murdered, their sufferings laughed to scorn, and the last sound that fell on their







ears was exultant derision. It would seem that whatever the Indians left undone, in the way of horror, in the State of Ohio, the whites improved upon, and blackened the pages of American history with deeds of blood. Succeeding this barbarity, was the expedition against Moravian Indian towns, upon the Sandusky. Not an Indian, whether an enemy or friend, old or young, male or female, was to escape the assault, including an extermination of the Moravian element.

Col. William Crawford led the expedition, which counted 500 men, in their dastardly work. Warning had in some manner reached the towns, and the troops found them deserted. But the Indians were incensed, and their wrath had not driven them to hiding-places, but to a preparation to meet their foes. They fought desperately, and Crawford's troops were defeated and scattered, many being captured, and among them, Col. Crawford himself. It is hardly probable that Crawford could justly expect much mercy at the hands of his captors. His battle-cry had been "no quarter," and yet he evidently hoped for some consideration, as he requested an interview with Simon Girty, who lived with and influenced the Indians. Accounts state that Crawford implored the aid of Girty, and at last secured a promise to use his power to obtain the Colonel's pardon. However, this was of no avail, and it is doubtful whether Girty was disposed to intercede. The prisoners were tortured and put to death, and Crawford's agonies were protracted as long as possible. Dr. Knight managed to disable the Indian who had him in charge, and made his escape to the settlements, where he related the result of the expedition and the tortures of the captured.

On October 27, 1784, a treaty was concluded, at Fort Stanwix, with the sachems and warriors of the Mohawks, Onondagas, Senecas, Cayugas, Oneidas and Tuscarawas, and the Six Nations then ceded to the Colonial Government all claims to the country west of a line defined by the western boundary to the Ohio—thus rendering the Indian claim to a large portion of Ohio lands practically extinct.

Although the French and Indian war was a series of heart-rending events, it was a serious and remarkable school of discipline for the untrained troops which soon engaged in the Revolutionary struggle. On the fields of Ohio, many valuable officers, who earned distinction in the war of independence, learned their first lessons in intrepid valor.

During the Revolution, the colonial troops were engaged east of the mountains, and western settlements and frontier people were left alone to defend themselves and their property against encroachments and attacks.

The Indian tribes again became belligerent, and united with the English against the "Americans." The latter held a line of posts along the Upper Ohio, while the British were stationed in the old French strongholds on the lakes and the Mississippi. The unscrupulous whites and Indians ranged at random between this boundary and the Cuyahoga, thence southerly to the Ohio,



thus including the Scioto and Miami Valleys. Southeastern Ohio constituted "the neutral ground."

Gen. Clarke's expedition, although chiefly confined to Indiana and Illinois, greatly influenced the settlement of Ohio. His exploits and the resolution of his troops were chiefly instrumental in holding the country west of the Alleghanies, and insuring its possession by the United States during the Revolution. The British had been emphatic, in the Paris treaty, at the time of the settlement of the French and English difficulties, in demanding the Ohio River as the northern boundary of the United States. The American Commissioners relied upon Gen. Clarke's valor and energy in holding the country west of the Alleghanies, which he had conquered, and the British Commissioners were compelled to give their consent, under civil and military measures. In 1783, by the treaty of Paris, at the close of the Revolutionary war, the English relinquished all rights to the fertile territory between the Alleghanies and the Mississippi, and the United States held undisputed possession.

January 10, 1786, Gens. Rufus Putnam and Benjamin Tupper circulated a pamphlet, proposing the formation of a company for the purpose of settling the Ohio lands, and soliciting the attention and consideration of all those desiring a future home and prosperity. A meeting was also called, to assemble during the following February, and select delegates to represent each county in Massachusetts. These dignitaries should convene during the month of March, at the "Bunch of Grapes" tavern, in Boston, for the purpose of definitely forming the association, and adopting such measures as would benefit all directly interested. The meeting and "convention" followed, and the subscription books were opened. One million dollars, chiefly represented by Continental certificates, was the price of the land. The shares were valued at \$1,000 each, and there was a division of a thousand shares. The first payment was to be \$10 per share, this money to be set aside for such expenses as might accrue. A year's interest was to be devoted to the establishment of the settlement, and those families who were unable to incur the expense of moving were to be assisted. Those who purchased shares to the number of twenty were entitled to a representation by an agent, who was permitted to vote for Directors. This plan matured and was acted upon during the following year. It may be that the action of Connecticut, in ceding her territorial claims to the General Government, with few exceptions, greatly encouraged this new undertaking. That tract was, until recently, designated the "Western Reserve"—an extent 170 miles from the western boundary of Pennsylvania, and parallel thereto, being reserved.

On October 27, 1787, a contract was made between the Board of the Treasury, for the United States, and Manasseh Cutler and Winthrop Sargent, agents for the Directors of the New England Ohio Company, for the purchase of a tract of land, bounded by the Ohio, and from the mouth of the Scioto to the intersection of the western boundary of the seventh townships, then surveying; thence by said boundary to the northern boundary of the tenth township from







the Ohio; thence, by a due west line, to the Scioto; thence, by the Scioto, to the beginning.

However fertile and attractive Ohio was known to have been, settlement did not gain rapidly after the close of the war with England, although the United States has gained her freedom. It was more than six years after Cornwallis laid down his sword, before a white settlement was formed on the *Ohio* side of the river. The French and Indian war had incited the English to be jealous of her colonial conquests, and mistrusting their loyalty, they had, so soon as the French claims were annulled, taken measures to crush all colonial claims also, and a royal proclamation rescinded all colonial land grants and charters, holding all the country west of the sources of the Atlantic rivers under the protection and sovereignty of the king of Great Britain, for the use of the Indians. All white persons were forbidden to remain or settle within the prescribed limits. Parliament then attached this tract to Quebec, and the English Government felt assured that the thirteen colonies were restricted and held secure east of the Alleghanies.

The result of the war between the colonies and England did not constitute an Indian treaty. Although England signed over her title and right, the savages held the land and ignored all white agreements, one way or the other. Whenever an attempt at settlement was undertaken, Indian depredations proved disastrous. The tribes were encouraged by the English fur traders, and the English commandant at Detroit incited them to destroy all Americans who attempted to usurp the rights of red men.

Added to this serious difficulty was the unsettled debate regarding State claims, which rendered a title precarious. A treaty, signed at Fort McIntosh, previous to the war, and authenticated, shows that during the conflict the Delawares and Wyandots occupied the Indian and British frontier, on the southern shore of Lake Erie, from the Cuyahoga to the Maumee, and from the lake to the sources of its tributaries. Later, these two tribes ceded to the United States "the neutral ground," by warranty deed, and by quit-claim, the territory south and west of the described tract, set apart for their use.

By special measures, the grant of Congress in the matter of the Ohio Company extended to nearly 5,000,000 acres, valued at \$3,500,000. The original Ohio Company obtained 1,500,000 acres, the remaining being reserved by individuals, for private speculation.

The same year, Congress appointed Arthur St. Clair, Governor, and Winthrop Sargent, Secretary, of the Territory.

Fort Harmar had previously been built, at the mouth of the Muskingum, and in 1788, a New England colony attempted the "Muskingum settlement," on the opposite side, which was afterward named *Marietta*. In July, 1788, the Territorial officers were received in this village, and there established the first form of civil government, as set forth in the Ordinance of 1787. Three United States Judges were appointed, and Courts of Common Pleas, Probate and Justice were established.



If the stormy times were supposed to be of the past, that composure was rudely broken by the utter disregard of the Shawnee and other Indian tribes, who soon induced the Delawares and Wyandots to repudiate their consent in the matter of settlement. The miseries of frontier horrors were repeated. The British commandant at Detroit instigated many of these hostilities, yet the American Government took honorable action in assuring the English representative that American military preparations in the West was not an expedition against Detroit, or other British possessions, although the possession of Detroit by that nation was in direct opposition to the treaty of 1783. Gov. St. Clair, to avert the direful consequences of a border war, dispatched a Frenchman, Gameline, to the principal Indian towns of the Wabash and Maumee countries, to request them to meet the United States agents, and make a compromise for the benefit of both parties, at the same time reiterating the desire of the General Government to adhere to the Fort Harmar treaty. The Miamis, Shawnees, Ottawas, Kickapoos and Delawares received this representative kindly, but declined the wampum sent by the Governor, and deferred giving an answer until they had considered the subject with the "father at Detroit."

Blue Jacket, chief of the Shawnees, informed the Frenchman that the Indians doubted the sincerity of the Americans. The new settlement on the Ohio was a proof that the whites intended to crowd further and further, until the Indians were again and again robbed of their just right. He then emphatically asserted that unless the north side of the river was kept free from these inroads there could be no terms of peace with the Shawnees, and many other tribes.

Blue Jacket was unusually intelligent and sagacious, and expressed himself eloquently. He was persistent in his determination to engage in the war of extermination, should the white settlements continue north of the Ohio.

These overtures were continued, but they failed in producing any arrangement that permitted the whites to locate north of the Ohio.

Congress called upon Kentucky and Pennsylvania to lend the aid of their militia. Gen. Harmar was instructed to destroy the Miami villages at the head of the Maumee. Late in the fall of 1790, he executed this order.

The Indians had stored a large quantity of provisions, in expectation of a campaign, and this dependence was devastated. Without authority, and with undue carelessness, he divided his army and attempted to achieve other victories. He more than lost what he had gained. Two raids upon the Wabash Indians, thereafter, proved successful, but the campaign under Gov. St. Clair was not calculated to establish peace or obtain power, and was deemed but little less than a failure.

The year 1792 was a series of skirmishes, so far as a settlement was concerned, but 1793 succeeded well enough to convene a meeting of United States Commissioners and representatives of the hostile tribes, at the rapids of the Maumee. It is highly probable that a satisfactory treaty might have been arranged, had it not been for the intervention and malicious influence of the







British Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Col. McKee, his assistant Capt. Elliott, and the notorious Capt. Simon Girty, who instigated the savages to deeds more horrible than their own barbarisms.

It was evident that a severe struggle must ensue, and Capt. Wayne, in 1792, appointed to the command of the Western army, was called upon to conduct the campaign. He exhibited his wisdom in the beginning, by preparing his men in military discipline and fully equipping them before marching to meet a savage foe in a wilderness. Various causes detained the army, and it was not until the fall of 1793, that the force marched from Fort Washington (Cincinnati) to begin the battle.

It was already late in the season, and, before any progress had been made, the army went into winter quarters at Greenville, on a branch of the Big Miami.

In the mean time, the Ohio Company had not matured its practical "settlement plan," although a generous grant had been obtained. In 1792, they received a clear title to 750,000 acres of land, for which the full price had previously been paid, in Continental currency. Congress set aside 214,285 acres as army bounties, and 100,000 acres to actual settlers. The two latter appropriations joined that of the Ohio Company.

There had been numerous conventions, discussions and other fruitless attempts to somehow form a plan for the government of the Northwest Territory, but it was not until July 13, 1787, that an ordinance was passed, and that was the result of Dr. Cutler's efforts. Every State sustained its measures.

This ordinance was the foundation of the constitution of the future State of Ohio, and indeed, permeates the entire Northwestern creed.

#### ORDINANCE OF 1787.—No. 32.

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES, NORTHWEST OF THE OHIO RIVER.

*Be it ordained by the United States in Congress assembled,* That the said Territory, for the purpose of government, be one district; subject, however, to be divided into two districts, as future circumstances may, in the opinion of Congress, make it expedient.

*Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid,* That the estates of both resident and non-resident proprietors in the said Territory, dying intestate, shall descend to and be distributed among their children and the descendants of a deceased child, in equal parts; the descendants of a deceased child or grandchild to take the share of their deceased parent in equal parts among them. And when there shall be no children or descendants, then in equal parts to the next of kin in equal degree; and among collaterals, the children of a deceased brother or sister of the intestate shall have, in equal parts among them, their deceased parent's share: and there shall in no case be a distribution between kindred of the whole and half blood, saving in all cases to the widow of intestate, her third part of the real estate, for life, and one-third part of the personal estate: and this law relative to descents and dower, shall remain in full force until altered by the Legislature of the district. And until the Governor and Judges shall adopt laws as hereinafter mentioned, estates in said Territory may be devised or bequeathed by wills in writing, signed and sealed by him or her in whom the estate may be (being of full age), and attested by three witnesses; and real estate may be conveyed by lease and release, or bargain and sale, signed and sealed, and delivered by the person (being in full age) in whom the estate may be, and attested



by two witnesses, provided such wills be duly proved, and such conveyances be acknowledged, or the execution thereof duly proved and be recorded within one year after proper magistrates, courts and registers shall be appointed for that purpose. And personal property may be transferred by delivery, saving, however, to the French and Canadian inhabitants and other settlers of the Kaskaskias, St. Vincent's and the neighboring villages, who have heretofore professed themselves citizens of Virginia, their laws and customs now in force among them, relative to the descent and conveyance of property.

*Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid,* That there shall be appointed from time to time, by Congress, a Governor whose commission shall continue in force for a term of three years, unless sooner revoked by Congress. He shall reside in the district and have a freehold estate therein, of a thousand acres of land while in the exercise of his office.

There shall be appointed from time to time by Congress, a Secretary whose commission shall continue in force for two years, unless sooner revoked. He shall reside in the district, and shall have a freehold estate therein in 500 acres of land, while in the exercise of his office. It shall be his duty to keep and preserve the acts and laws passed by the Legislature, and the public records of the district, and the proceedings of the Governor in his executive department, and transmit authentic copies of such acts and proceedings every six months, to the Secretary of Congress. There shall also be appointed a court to consist of three Judges, any two of whom to form a court, who shall have a common law jurisdiction and shall reside in the district and have each therein a freehold estate in 500 acres of land, while in the exercise of their office, and their commissions shall continue in force during good behavior.

The Governor and Judges, or a majority of them, shall adopt and publish in the district such laws of the original States, criminal and civil, as may be necessary and best suited to the circumstances of the district, and report them to Congress from time to time, which laws shall be in force in the district until the organization of the General Assembly therein, unless disapproved by Congress. But afterward, the Legislature shall have authority to alter them, as they shall think fit.

The Governor, for the time being, shall be commander-in-chief of the militia, appoint and commission all officers in the same, below the rank of general officers. All general officers shall be appointed and commissioned by Congress.

Previous to the organization of the General Assembly, the Governor shall appoint such magistrates and other civil officers in each county or township, as he shall find necessary for the preservation of the peace and good order in the same. After the General Assembly shall be organized, the powers and duties of magistrates and other civil officers shall be regulated and defined by the said Assembly, but all magistrates and other civil officers not herein otherwise directed, shall, during the continuance of this temporary government, be appointed by the Governor.

For the prevention of crimes and injuries, the laws to be adopted or made shall have force in all parts of the district, and for the execution of process, criminal or civil, the Governor shall make proper divisions thereof, and he shall proceed from time to time as circumstances may require, to lay out the parts of the district in which the Indian titles shall have been extinguished, into counties and townships, subject, however, to such alterations as may thereafter be made by the Legislature. So soon as there shall be 5,000 free male inhabitants of full age in the district, upon giving proof thereof to the Governor, they shall receive authority with time and place, to elect representatives from their counties or townships, to represent them in the General Assembly. *Provided,* That for every 500 free male inhabitants, there shall be one representative, and so on progressively with the number of free male inhabitants, shall the right of representation increase, until the number of representatives shall amount to twenty-five. After which, the number shall be regulated by the Legislature. *Provided,* That no person be eligible or qualified to act as a representative unless he shall have been a citizen of one of the United States three years, and be a resident in the district, or unless he shall have resided in the district three years, and in either case, shall likewise hold in his own right in fee simple 200 acres of land within the same.







*Provided*, Also, that a freehold in 50 acres of land in the district, having been a citizen of one of the States, and being a resident in the district, or the like freehold and two years' residence in the district, shall be necessary to qualify a man as an elector of a representative.

The representatives thus elected, shall serve for the term of two years. And in case of the death of a representative or removal from office, the Governor shall issue a writ to the county or township for which he was a member, to elect another in his stead, to serve for the residue of the term.

The General Assembly or Legislature shall consist of the Governor, Legislative Council, and a House of Representatives. The Legislative Council shall consist of five members, to continue in office five years, unless sooner removed by Congress; any three of whom to be a quorum. And the members of the Council shall be nominated and appointed in the following manner, to wit:

As soon as representatives shall be elected, the Governor shall appoint a time and place for them to meet together, and when met, they shall nominate ten persons, residents in the district, and each person in a freehold in 500 acres of land, and return their names to Congress, five of whom Congress shall appoint and commission as aforesaid. And whenever a vacancy shall happen in the Council by death or removal from office, the House of Representatives shall nominate two persons, qualified as aforesaid, for each vacancy, and return their names to Congress, one of whom Congress shall appoint and commission for the residue of the term. And every five years, four months at least before the expiration of the time of service of the members of the Council, the said House shall nominate ten persons qualified as aforesaid, and return their names to Congress, five of whom Congress shall appoint and commission to serve as members of the Council five years, unless sooner removed. And the Governor, Legislative Council and House of Representatives shall have authority to make laws in all cases, for the good government of the district, not repugnant to the principles and articles in this Ordinance, established and declared.

And all bills having passed by a majority in the House, and by a majority in the Council, shall be referred to the Governor for his assent. But no bill or legislative act whatever, shall be of any force without his assent. The Governor shall have power to convene, prorogue and dissolve the General Assembly, when in his opinion it shall be expedient.

The Governor, Judges, Legislative Council, Secretary, and such other officers as Congress shall appoint in the district, shall take an oath or affirmation of fidelity and of office. The Governor before the President of Congress, and all other officers before the Governor.

As soon as a Legislature shall be formed in the district, the Council and House assembled in one room, shall have authority by joint ballot to elect a delegate to Congress, who shall have a seat in Congress, with a right of debating, but not of voting, during this temporary government.

And for extending the fundamental principles of civil and religious liberty, which forms the basis whereon these republics, their laws and constitutions, are created; to fix and establish those principles as the basis of all laws, constitutions and governments, which forever hereafter shall be formed in said Territory. To provide for the establishment of States, and permanent governments therein, and for their admission to a share in the Federal Council on an equal footing with the original States, at as early periods as may be consistent with the general interest.

*It is hereby ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid*, That the following articles shall be considered as articles of compact between the original States and the people, and States in said Territory, and forever remain unaltered unless by common consent, to wit:

ARTICLE II. The inhabitants of said Territory shall always be entitled to the benefits of the writ of *habeas corpus*, and of the trial by jury; of a proportionate representation of the people in the Legislature, and of judicial procedure according to the course of common law. All persons shall be bailable, except for capital offenses, where the proof shall be evident or the presumption great. All fines shall be moderate, and no cruel or unreasonable punishment shall be inflicted. No man shall be deprived of his liberty or property, but by the judgment of his peers or the law of the land. And should the public exigencies make it necessary for the common preservation, to take any person's property, or to demand his particular services, full compensation



shall be made for the same. And in the just preservation of rights and property, it is understood and declared that no law ought ever to be made or have force in the said Territory, that shall in any manner whatever interfere with or effect private contracts or engagements *bona fide* and without fraud, previously formed.

ART. III. Religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged. The utmost good faith shall always be observed toward the Indians; their lands and property shall never be taken from them without their consent; and in their property, rights and liberty they shall never be invaded or disturbed, unless in just and lawful wars authorized by Congress. But laws founded in justice and humanity, shall from time to time be made for preventing wrongs being done to them, and for preserving peace and friendship with them.

ART. IV. The said Territory and the States which may be formed therein, shall ever remain a part of the confederacy of the United States of America, subject to the articles of confederation, and to such alterations therein as shall be constitutionally made, and to all the acts and ordinances of the United States in Congress assembled conformable thereto. The inhabitants and settlers in said Territory shall be subject to pay a part of the federal debts contracted or to be contracted, and a proportional part of the expenses of the Government, to be apportioned on them by Congress, according to the same common rule and measure by which apportionments thereof shall be made on the other States, and the taxes for paying their proportion shall be laid and levied by the authority and directions of the Legislature of the district or districts or new States, within the time agreed upon by the United States in Congress assembled. The Legislatures of those districts or new States, shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the soil by the United States in Congress assembled, nor with any regulations Congress may find necessary for securing the title in such soil to the *bona-fide* purchasers. No tax shall be imposed on lands the property of the United States, and in no case, shall non-residents be taxed higher than residents. The navigable waters leading into the Mississippi and St Lawrence, and the carrying places between the same, shall be common highways, and forever free as well to the inhabitants of the said Territory as to the citizens of the United States and those of any other States that may be admitted into the confederacy, without any tax, impost or duty therefor.

ART. V. There shall be formed in said Territory not less than three, nor more than five. States, and the boundaries of the States, as soon as Virginia shall alter her act of cession and consent to the same, shall become fixed and established as follows, to wit: The western State in the said Territory shall be bounded by the Mississippi, the Ohio, the Wabash Rivers; a direct line drawn from the Wabash and Post St. Vincent, due north to the Territorial line between the United States and Canada; and by the said Territorial line to the Lake of the Woods and Mississippi. The middle State shall be bounded by the said direct line, the Wabash from Post St. Vincent to the Ohio, by the Ohio, by a direct line drawn due north from the mouth of the Great Miami to the said Territorial line. The eastern State shall be bounded by the last-mentioned direct line, the Ohio, Pennsylvania and said territorial line. *Provided*, however, and it is further understood and declared, that the boundaries of those three States shall be subject so far to be altered, that, if Congress shall hereafter find it expedient, they shall have authority to form one or two States in that part of the said Territory which lies north of an east and west line drawn through the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan. And whenever any of the said States shall have 60,000 free inhabitants therein, such State shall be admitted by its delegates into the Congress of the United States on an equal footing with the original States in all respects whatever, and shall be at liberty to form a permanent constitution and State government. *Provided*, The constitution and government so to be formed, shall be represented, and in conformity to the principles contained in these articles; and so far as it can be consistent with the general interest of the confederacy, such admission shall be allowed at an earlier period, and when there may be a less number of free inhabitants than 60,000.

ART. VI. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said Territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted. *Provided always*, That any person escaping into the same from whom labor or service is lawfully







claimed in one of the original States, each fugitive may be lawfully claimed and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or services as aforesaid.

*It is ordained by the authority aforesaid,* That the resolutions of the 23d of April, 1784, relative to the subject of this ordinance, be and the same are hereby repealed and declared null and void.

The passage of this ordinance, since known as the "Ordinance of 1787," was immediately followed by an application to the Government, by John Cleves Seymour, of New Jersey, in behalf of the country, between the Miamis, and a contract was concluded the following year. The Ohio Company were exceedingly energetic in inaugurating settlements. Gen. Putman, with a party of forty-seven men, set out on an exploring expedition, accompanied by six boat builders. On the 1st of January, 1788, twenty-six surveyors followed, from Hartford, Conn. They arrived in Ohio on the 7th of April, 1788, and their active energy founded the permanent beginning of this great Western State. When we review the dangerous experiments that have been made, in this land west of the Alleghanies, the horrors which had overwhelmed every attempt, we can faintly realize the stalwart courage that sent these men on their way, and sustained them in their pioneer hardships. With characteristic vigor, they began their little town. Enthusiastic and happy, they did not rest from their toilsome march over the old Indian roads, but kept busily at work to establish an oasis in this wide expanse of wilderness, before they should take necessary ease to recuperate their strength.

The wise men met on the 2d of May, and the little town was named Marietta. Situated as it was, in the midst of danger, they had used precaution to build and equip a fortified square, which was designated Campus Martius; Square No. 19 was Capitolium, and Square No. 61 was Cecelia, and the main street was Sacra Via.

Marietta was especially fortunate in her actual "first families." Ten of the forty-eight men had received a thorough college education; the remaining were individuals of sterling merit, honorable, and several had already attained reputations for superior excellence of abilities. Patriotic and brave, the settlement certainly possessed a foundation that promised well for the future. The following 4th of July was an auspicious event, and the Hon. James M. Varnum was the eloquent orator of the occasion.

The opening of the court, on the 2d of September, was a solemn ceremonial, the High Sheriff leading with drawn sword, followed by citizens, with an escort of officers from Fort Harmar, the members of the bar, the Governor and Clergymen, the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas—Gen. Rufus Putman and Benjamin Tupper—all these constituted an imposing spectacle, as they progressed over a path which had been cut through the forest to Campus Martius Hall, the edifice of law and order.

The Judges took their seats, a prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Cutler, and immediately the Sheriff, Col. Ebenezer Sprout, proclaimed the response, and the court of impartial justice was convened.



This ceremonial was, perhaps, made all the more impressive by the presence of several powerful Indian chiefs, who had journeyed to Marietta for the purpose of making a treaty.

The settlement now increased rapidly, new cabins were erected constantly. On the 17th of December, a society event occurred, in the form of a grand ball, fifteen ladies being present.

John Cleves Symmes had contracted for 2,000,000 acres of land, and succeeded in obtaining his grant, but circumstances prevented him from meeting his part of the obligations, and the specification was reduced to 1,000,000. After vain attempt to make his payments, a settlement was finally effected for 248,540 acres, and Symmes was prepared to dispose of clear titles to new-comers. In 1788, a town was established within the boundaries of his grant, at the mouth of the little Miami, known as Columbia, and in the early part of 1787 another was formed opposite the mouth of the Licking River, by name Losantiville, analyzed by a frontier scholar—*ville*, the town; *anti*, opposite to; *os*, the mouth of; *L*, Licking.

Judge Symmes had projected building his main town at North Bend. This plan was frustrated by reason of Ensign Luce—who had been commissioned by Gen. Harmar to erect a fort—deciding that North Bend was not suitable for the purpose. He selected Losantiville for the purpose, and Fort Washington was the result. In 1790, Gov. St. Clair was called to inspect the settlement, and proceeded to organize Hamilton County, at the same time calling the town *Cincinnati*.

It will be remembered that Connecticut ceded most of her western lands to General Government, retaining, however, a minor portion. As the settlements began to increase on the "Virginia Reserve" and between the Scioto and Miami Rivers, all those holding claims were not disposed to part with them, while others were anxious to secure grants for the purpose of speculation, rather than the advancement of civilization. The Scioto Company was a questionable adherent of the Ohio Company, and began operations, which resulted well, whatever their purpose may have been.

Gen. Putnam cleared the land and directed the building of 100 dwellings and six block-houses. During 1791, the colony arrived, consisting of 500 persons. Only ten of these were tillers of the soil. Viscount Malartie ventured into the wilderness, but instead of settling, joined Gen. St. Clair's army, and was ultimately his aid-de-camp. Indian conquests were not to his taste, and he soon returned to France. This new colony was essentially French, and its location was Gallia County. The name "Gallipolis" was selected.

These settlers, being unaccustomed to severe toil, and disinclined to learn its hard lesson, soon became demoralized, through deprivation and absolute want. Congress came to their aid with a land grant of 24,000 acres, but few of them cared to enter claims, and soon all traces of the old town were lost, and its inhabitants scattered.







Gen. St. Clair having become unpopular, through repeated failures in Indian campaigns, and Gen. Anthony Wayne having wintered at Fort Washington, the spring of 1793 was opened by a march of the army, well disciplined and led by "Mad Anthony," on a campaign that must crush the rapidly increasing depredations of the Indians, notwithstanding which these new settlements had been made. All winter, Gen. Wayne had dispatched scouts, spies and hardy frontiersmen on errands of discovery, and his plans were, therefore, practically matured. His army cut its way through the forests, gathering horses, provisions, etc., as they marched, and finally came nearly up to the enemy before discovery. They again returned to Fort Washington, as the Commander-in-Chief, under the order of the Executive, had proclaimed inaction until the Northern or British Commissioners and Indians should convene and discuss the situation and prospects. Gen. Wayne, meantime, drilled his men at "Hobson's Choice," a place near Fort Washington.

The Commissioners came from Detroit, and assembled at Capt. Matthew Elliot's house, at the mouth of the Detroit River.

A meeting was called at Sandusky, and twenty Indian representatives were present, to argue the grounds of a treaty. Simon Girty acted as interpreter, and has been vehemently accused of unfaithfulness in this trust, since he did not advocate the adjustment of matters on any grounds. The Indians reiterated their rights and wrongs, and offered to receive the half of the purchase money, provided the actual settlers would accept it as the price of the land, move away, and leave the original owners the proud possessors of their lands. The Government would then expend less money than they would have done in a full Indian purchase, or a long and cruel war. This being out of the question and rejected, a decided specification was made that the Ohio boundary was to be obliterated, and a new one adopted, that encompassed a mere fraction of territory. This was also rejected. The Indians indignantly bade the Americans to go back to their father, and they would return to their tribes.

The council was terminated in confusion. It is highly probable that some settlement might have been made, had it not been for English influence which instigated the savages, in the hope of ultimately making conquests for themselves. The commander at Detroit evinced great uneasiness whenever there was a shadow of an opportunity for a peaceful understanding.

On Christmas Day, 1793, a detachment of the army encamped on the identical ground made memorable by St. Clair's horrible defeat. A reward was offered for every human skull that was found, and 600 were gathered. The bones of the victims were removed from the spot where they built Fort Recovery. This point was left in charge of Alexander Gibson.

Early in the year 1794, Lord Dorchester addressed the Commissioners in behalf of the English. Even at this time, Gen. Wayne, to avoid the terrors of a great war, again made overtures of peace, dispatching Freeman, Trueman and Hardin, all initiated in savage tactics, on errands of mercy—and the three men



were inhumanly murdered. The English went so far as to order Gov. Simcoe to erect a fort, in April, 1794, on the Rapids of the Maumee, thus rousing the Indians by a bold proof that they had espoused their cause. In May, the Spanish, who were ever jealous of colonial encroachments, were willing to aid in a general raid against the Americans.

In June, a scouting party from Fort Recovery, fell into an Indian ambush and suffered severely, their foes following them to the very entrance. The siege continued for two days. It was plainly evident that white men augmented the Indian force; ounce balls and buck-shot surely came from their rifles. Again, the Indians immediately began a search beneath the logs where pieces of artillery were hidden during the great battle of St. Clair, but fortunately, Fort Recovery had the use of them and they accomplished much.

On July 26, Scott joined Wayne at Greenville, with 1,600 mounted Kentuckians, and on the 28th, the legion took up its line of deadly march. Halting at Girty's Town, they built Fort Mary's, later on Fort Adams. Throwing the enemy off their guard by feints and counter-marching, the troops surprised the Indians, and without the slightest resistance took possession of their villages at the confluence of the Auglaize and Maumee. They found provision in abundance, and tarried a week building Fort Defiance.

Again Gen. Wayne would have made terms of peace, on the principle of the Government to arrest bloodshed, but the Indians were rendered cruelly intent on war by an addition of a body of British militia from Detroit, and by regulars stationed at a fort they had built on the left bank of the river, below the rapids, called Fort Miami. The "Fallen Timber" ground was selected as the field for a battle by the savages, in the expectation that the trees cast down by a tornado and there remaining, would seriously impede American progress.

August 15th, Wayne marched down the river, and at Roche de Boeuf, erected a fortification for their stores and luggage, naming it "Fort Deposit." On the 20th, the American army began the attack. Maj. Price and Maj. Gen. Scott were heroic in their assistance, and after a sharp, deadly conflict, the enemy was routed, fleeing in confusion, and leaving their dead and wounded strewn thickly over the field. The savages were pressed to the front always, and when the carnage was painful, the British troops not engaged looked on coolly from the fort and offered no assistance, aiding their own, however, when possible. Gen. Wayne being an ardent soldier, was apt to forget his position, and impetuously place himself constantly in danger. Lieut. Harrison is reported to have requested the General not to forget to give him field orders, in his own participation in the battle, and to have received the reply that *the standing order was always to charge bayonets.*

Notwithstanding the treaty of 1878, and the fact that the British were trespassing, they encroached upon the Ohio soil, and essayed to vindicate their action by discarding American claims and recognizing the Indian rights, whereby they might seek their own colonization and make treaties.







Maj. Campbell was in command at Fort Miami, and when he saw the savages being cut down almost mercilessly, he not only refrained from offering aid, but when, in their desperate retreat, they attempted to enter the fort for protection, he ordered the doors closed in their faces.

On the following day, Campbell sent a message to Wayne, demanding a reason for hostile action, adding that Great Britain was not now at war with the United States. He received a characteristic reply.

During the Revolution, Detroit was an important British point, and the Maumee was its outlet. Therefore, the English clung tenaciously to this possession, giving, as it did, the advantage of the great fur trade. The English Government evidently regretted ceding so much of her territory in the West, and were searching for an excuse to quarrel and attempt to regain at least a part of what they had lost. Their policy was to sustain the bitter hatred between the Indians and the Americans.

The settlement of the Maumee Valley had been rapid, but the very name was an agony of remembrance of frightful massacres and atrocities. Col. McKee, the British Indian agent, and his assistant, Capt. Elliott, were from Pennsylvania, but being Tories, they had assimilated with the Indians. They joined the Shawnee tribe and married Indian wives, and made their fortunes thereby, through British appointments to secure the savage interests. The Indians were directly served by McKee and Elliott, with ammunition and supplies, during the Wayne conflict.

Several skirmishes ensued, but severe weather approaching, the troops moved for quarters, and on the 14th day of September, they attacked the Miami villages, captured them with provisions and stores, and erected a fort, leaving it in charge of Lieut. Col. Hamtramck. With cheers and rifle-shooting, this post was named *Fort Wayne*. The main army marched into Greenville and went into winter quarters.

Wayne had achieved a brilliant victory, but his success did not overcome his practical reasoning, and he was unwilling to subject his men to a severe winter's campaign unless necessity was peremptory.

Gov. Simcoe, Col. McKee and a few of the most savage Indian chiefs attempted to rally the Indians for a new attack. Gov. Simcoe, of Detroit, was aware that the mounted volunteers under Wayne had been allowed to return home, and that the term of service of a portion of the "Legion" was about to expire.

The British and Indians held a conference, but the latter were weary with fighting for the glory of the Great Father at Detroit, and did not enter into the plan. The winter proved most poverty stricken to them, the English failing to supply them, and their crops and sustenance having been destroyed by Wayne. They were then fully prepared to listen to the faintest signal from Wayne to conciliate affairs, and the Wyandots and Delawares were the first to confer with him on the subject. Their position was exposed and they had suffered severely.



They soon influenced other tribes to consider the question. As a mass, they were convinced of their inability to overcome the Americans, and had become impatient and disgusted with the duplicity of their British friends, who had not hesitated to sacrifice them in every instance, and who deserted them in their hour of distress. United, they sued for peace. Terms were made, and about the 1st of August, the famous Greenville treaty was ratified and established, and the old Indian war in Ohio terminated.

The Wyandots, Delawares, Shawnees, Chippewas, Ottawas, Pottawatomies, Miamis, Eel Rivers, Weas, Kickapoos, Piankeshaws and Kaskaskias were thus conciliated. The old Indian boundary line, settled upon at the Fort McIntosh treaty, was retained, and the southwestern line was prolonged from old Fort Recovery, southwest of the Ohio River.

"The general boundary lines between the lands of the United States and the lands of the said Indian tribes shall begin at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River, and thence run up the same to the portage between that and the Tuscarawas Branch of the Muskingum; thence down that branch to the crossing-place above Fort Laurens; thence westerly to a fork of that branch of the Great Miami River (running into the Ohio), at or near which fork stood Laramie's store—Mary's River, which is a branch of the Miami that runs into Lake Erie; thence a westerly course to Fort Recovery, which stands on a branch of the Wabash; thence southwesterly on a direct line to the Ohio, so as to intersect that river opposite the mouth of the Kentucky or Cuttawa River."

This boundary line has, ever since this memorable treaty, been a prominent landmark, and may now be traced as the southern boundary line of Stark, Ashland, Richland and Marion Counties, and the northern line, in part, of Tuscarawas and Knox. Old Fort Recovery was located in Mercer, near the Indiana line. Laramie's store was in Shelby.

Within the Indian Reservation, the United States held sixteen distinct sections of land, for the purpose of military posts, so arranged that the Government had full right of way north and west.

The "Joy treaty" between England and the United States was ratified early in 1796, and the British were obliged to vacate Detroit and Fort Miami, and recall the fact that they had no claim or right to either points. Gen. Wayne received them, and accompanied by Gov. St. Clair, proceeded to Detroit. Here the latter laid out a county, calling it Wayne, and designated Detroit as its seat of justice. This was the fifth county in the Northwest Territory, north of the Ohio River. Washington County, with Marietta as a seat of justice, was first established; next Hamilton, with Cincinnati as a county seat. Wayne County was organized in 1796, and included about twenty-six of the present counties in the northwest part of the State, covering about a quarter of its area, besides parts of Indiana and Michigan.

In other parts of the State, the population was rapidly increasing. In May, 1795, the Legislature authorized a committee to institute measures for the









*W. Allen*

GREENVILLE, OHIO.



disposal of their Western lands. The Virginia and Connecticut Reservations required some action on the part of Government, inasmuch as ceding a portion and re-selling had in a measure disturbed free titles. Fifty-six persons negotiated and purchased lands, receiving quit-claim titles and entire rights. They resold to John Morgan and John Caldwell and Jonathan Bruce, in trust. Thus 2,000,000 acres were prepared for settlement. Upon the quit-claim deeds of these representatives, the full title of lands included within the old Western Reserve rests.

Judge Symmes began his active operations in 1796, and by the close of 1797 all lands east of the Cuyahoga were laid out in townships, five miles square. The agent of the Connecticut Land Company was Gen. Moses Cleveland, and in his honor the leading city in the Reserve was named. Some townships were retained for private sale, and others were disposed of by lottery, in 1798.

Wayne's treaty led to the formation of Dayton, and the peopling of that section. A difficulty arose regarding the original Symmes grant and its modification. Symmes had sold land titles, in good faith, beyond his vested power, and Congress was now called upon to adjust these claims and titles. Seventeen days after the Wayne or Greenville treaty, St. Clair, Wilkinson, Dayton and Ludlow contracted with Symmes for seven and eight ranges, between the Mad and Little Miami Rivers. November 4, 1795, Mr. Ludlow laid out Dayton.

During the years 1790 and 1795, the Governor and Supreme Judges of the Northwest Territory had published sixty-four statutes. Thirty-four of these were ratified at Cincinnati, for the purpose of forming a complete statutory. It was termed the "Maxwell Code."

Mr. Nathaniel Massie founded a town on the Scioto, which was called Chillicothe. The Iroquois treaty had previously invited settlement, and embryo towns had begun as early as 1769, under the protection of the Connecticut Company. A land company was organized in Hartford, Conn., in 1795, sending out forty-three surveyors to divide the townships of that part of the Western Reserve, east of the Cuyahoga, five miles square. The first resident of the town of Cleveland was Mr. Job Stiles and family, and Mrs. Stiles was the mother of the first white child born on the Reserve. Some other parts of the territory progressed more rapidly in population.

Along the Muskingum, Scioto and Miami, towns began to spring up, which might perhaps better be termed farming settlements.

Cincinnati was increasing, and in 1796, had reached 100 cabins, 15 frame houses and 600 persons, with prospects for a firm future.

The Virginia Military Land District was between the Little Miami and Scioto, and was rapidly increasing in population.

Mr. Massie was unceasing in his efforts to advance the West, and laid out Manchester, offering inducements that could not fail to attract settlers.

Ebenezer Zane procured a grant in consideration of opening a bridle path from the Ohio River at Wheeling, over the country via Chillicothe, to Limestone,





in Kentucky. The year following, the United States mail was taken over this route.

The comparatively tranquil condition of the country and the inducements it had to offer encouraged a rapid settlement of the Territory. A prominent feature of the early growth of Ohio was the general prevalence of reliable, staunch principle. The people were of the good colonial stock.

In 1800, Chillicothe was denominated the seat of the Territorial government, and the first stone edifice in the State was begun in this town, soon after this appointment. About this time, a serious difficulty suddenly occurred to those individuals who had taken lands on the Western Reserve of Connecticut. That Eastern power had, it is true, ceded a part of her claim to the General Government, and had stipulated for the sale of certain other tracts. At the same time, the State had not signed away her jurisdiction over some sections of her claim, and those unfortunate people in and about Dayton found themselves without any government upon which they might depend in a case of emergency. The matter was, accordingly, presented to the Territorial government, which interceded with the Eastern State, and, sanctioned by the Assembly at Congress, Connecticut relinquished her jurisdiction in 1800.

Cleveland was an important point, and was growing in the mean time. However, it had suffered exceedingly from the ravages of fever and ague. For a period of two months, there was not an individual, but a boy thirteen years of age, able to procure food for the others. Flour was out of all rational consideration, and the meal upon which they lived was pounded by hand. In 1799, Williams and Myatt erected a grist-mill at the falls, near Newbury.

A startling agitation occurred in 1801, which in these days would cause but a ripple in the political sea, but happening during a time when legislative dignity and state authority were regarded with reverential awe, it created the most intense feeling. Great indignation was openly expressed.

The Governor and several legislators felt that they had been insulted in the performance of their respective duties; at Chillicothe, while the Assembly was in session in 1801. No measures being taken by the authorities at the capital to protect the Executive, a law was passed removing the seat of government to Cincinnati.

This circumstance led to a general consideration of the advantages of a State government, and a popular desire was expressed for a change in this respect. Gov. St. Clair had fallen into disfavor through his failure as a military leader and his failures in the Indian campaigns, and from his assuming powers which were not vested in him, especially the subdivision of counties. He was also identified with the Federal party, which was not popular in Ohio. The opposition was strong in the Assembly, but was in the minority in the House of Representatives. The boundary question was agitated at the same time. The intention was to thus effect the limits of Ohio that a State government would necessarily have to be postponed. Against this measure, Tiffin, Worthington,



Lougham, Darlington, Massie, Dunlavy and Morrow strenuously objected. After considerable discussion, Thomas Worthington obtained leave of absence from the session, and journeyed to Washington in behalf of a State government. It was obvious that the Territory, under the ordinance, was not entitled to a change. Massie suggested the feasibility of appointing a committee to address Congress on the subject. This the House refused to pass.

An effort was then made to take a census, but any action on this subject was postponed until the next session.

During all this ineffectual struggle, Worthington was doing his best in Washington, and succeeded so well that on March 4, a report was made to the House in favor of the State government. This report was made on a basis that the census, in 1800, summed up over 45,000 for Ohio.

April 30, Congress passed a law carrying into effect the views expressed on this subject. A convention met on November 1. Its members were generally Jeffersonian in their views. Gov. St. Clair proposed to address them as their chief executive magistrate. Several members resolutely opposed this action, insisting upon a vote, which, through courtesy and not a sense of right, resulted in permitting him to address them. He advised the postponement of the State government until the original eastern portion of the State was sufficiently populated to demand this right. Only one, out of thirty-three, voted to sustain the Governor in these views.

The convention agreed to the views of Congress. November 29, the agreement was ratified and signed, as was the constitution of the State of Ohio. The General Assembly was ordered to convene the first Tuesday of March, 1803.

This was carried into effect. A constitution was framed for the new State, adhering to the Ordinance of 1787. The rights and duties of citizens were plainly set forth, and general business was transacted. The new State constitution was signed by :

Edward Tiffin, President and Representative from Ross County.

Adams County—Joseph Darlington, Israel Donalson, Thomas Vinker.

Belmont County—James Caldwell and Elijah Woods.

Clermont County—Philip Gatch and James Sargent.

Fairfield County—Henry Abrams and Emanuel Carpenter.

Hamilton County—John W. Brown, Charles Willing Byrd, Francis Dunlavy, William Goforth, John Gitchel, Jeremiah Morrow, John Paul, John Riley, John Smith and John Wilson.

Jefferson County—Rudolph Blair, George Humphry, John Milligan, Nathan Updegraff and Bezaleel Wells.

Ross County—Michael Baldwin, James Grubb, Nathaniel Massie and F. Worthington.

Washington County—Ephraim Cutler, Benjamin Ives Gilman, John McIntyre and Rufus Putnam.

Thomas Scott, Secretary.







The first Legislature of the State, under the new constitution, created eight new counties, viz., Gallia, Scioto, Franklin, Columbiana, Butler, Warren, Greene and Montgomery.

The first State officers were : Michael Baldwin, Speaker of the House ; Nathaniel Massie, President of the Senate ; William Creighton, Secretary of State ; Col. Thomas Gibson, Auditor ; William McFarland, Treasurer ; Return J. Meigs, Jr., Samuel Huntington and William Sprigg, Judges of the Supreme Court ; Francis Dunlavy, Willis Silliman and Calvin Pease, Judges of the District Court.

The General Assembly held a second session in December, at which time the militia law was revised, also giving aliens equal proprietary rights with native citizens. The revenue system was modified and improved. Acts authorizing the incorporation of townships were passed, and for the establishment of counties. Furthermore, Jacob White, Jeremiah Morrow and William Ludlow were authorized to locate a township for collegiate purposes, according to previous specified terms of Congress. The Symmes grant and the college specification collided materially, but the irregularity of the former was not to create any inconvenience for the latter. Mr. Symmes had in good faith marked off this township, but circumstances preventing the perfection of his plans, that lapsed with the others, and the original township was now entered by settlers.

Accordingly, thirty-six sections, west of the Great Miami, were selected, and are now held by the Miami University.

Gov. St. Clair, notwithstanding his unpopularity, was re-appointed.

Ohio was under a system of government which guaranteed the best improvements ; her Legislature being composed of her best statesmen, and the laws passed having the general interest of the people embodied in them.

A bill was passed, appropriating the net proceeds of the land lying within said State, sold by Congress after the 20th day of June, 1802, after deducting all expenses incident to the same, to be applied to the laying-out of roads, leading from the navigable waters emptying into the Atlantic to the Ohio, to the said State, and through the same ; such roads to be laid out under the authority of Congress, with the consent of the several States through which the road shall pass. In conformity with these provisions, steps were taken, in 1805, which resulted in the making of the Cumberland or National road.

Burr, at this time, began an organization for the ostensible purpose of making a settlement on the Wachita, but his party being armed and his plans not being frankly disclosed, an investigation proved that his real design was a mutinous revolt against Governmental powers, and to gratify his ambition by founding his own kingdom in Mexico, and defeating the Spanish. If success crowned his efforts, his ultimate victory was to rupture the Union by forcing the Western States to withdraw from their allegiance. By gaining an influence over the noble but misguided Blennerhasset, he established his headquarters on his island in the Ohio. The history of Burr's expedition is already well known.



The final capture by Gov. Tiffin, of ten boats loaded with stores, on the Muskingum, and four near Marietta, decided the fate of this scheme, and Burr was finally arrested and put on trial May 22, 1807.

The advancement of the settlement of the State was in no manner impeded, and towns sprang up, farms were laid out, and all other improvements inaugurated which tended to a permanent prosperity.

In 1808, Tecumseh left Greenville to join the Prophet on the banks of the Tippecanoe, a tributary of the Upper Wabash, on a tract of land granted herein by the Pottawatomies.

The Indians were virtually by treaty allowed but a small proportion of land within the boundaries of the State, and were maintaining peaceful attitudes toward the whites, with exceptional border depredations, which were settled by mutual understanding.

Although the United States had gained independence, and was treating with England as with other foreign powers, the British persisted in violating the national rights of the United States, impressing American seamen into the British service, seizing American vessels engaged with France in trade, and otherwise violating the rights of an independent nation, at peace with the British power.

The mission upon which Henry was sent by the British, to create disturbance between the States, and thus broken, to weaken the strength of the General Government, added fuel to the fire, and united indignation cried for war.

British agents again bargained with the Indians of the Wabash and Maumee Valleys, desiring them to inaugurate another war upon the western sections and to make a desperate attack upon the settlements south of the lakes. The British agent at Malden negotiated in rifles, powder, ball, merchandise, lead, blankets and shirts. The Indians were inspired again with the hope that the whites would be driven back, and that all the country north of the Ohio would again revert to them.

The Canadians in league with the English, gave the savages unlimited quantities of whisky, which naturally aroused their fierce natures to acts of violence and blood. It is highly probable that the use of liquor was the main cause of the deterioration of the best traits of the Indian character, after the Revolution. Again, many unscrupulous men upon the frontier did not hesitate to commit the most merciless crimes against the Indians, such was the prejudice against them, and the courts invariably failed to indict them for these atrocities. This error on the part of the Americans served to influence the savages against them.

At this time, the seats of justice were distant over a hundred miles each from the other, uninhabited tracts frequently extending between them which were absolute wildernesses. The routes were in many cases difficult and circuitous.

As early as 1808, there was a mail communication for the people on the Lower Maumee, many days elapsing between the arrivals and departures of







the same, however. Horace Gunn was the carrier. Benoni Adams brought the news from Cleveland to the same point, his trip requiring a fortnight. It must be remembered that this journey was mostly made on foot. The Black Swamp could not be traversed in any other manner.

#### THE WAR OF 1812.

The war of 1812 can be called a continuation of the Revolution, with all justice. Although rumors had reached Ohio, that active preparations were being made for general action, no official tidings had been sent to Hull, commander-in-chief of the Western forces.

The Secretary of War, instead of sending a special messenger directly to Hull, communicated with the post adjacent, depending upon a continuation of the news from that point. At the same time, advices were sent the British post at Malden and Detroit. Hull sent out a packet with official papers, stores, etc., the day previous to that on which the official intelligence arrived that an open rupture existed between the two powers, and this was of course captured.

The Western forces marched to Detroit and crossed over to Sandwich, preparatory to attacking Malden, a post most favorable for the transportation of stores, troops, etc. which was therefore considered valuable.

Peter Minard first gave the news to the settlers of the Maumee. He had heard from a Delaware chief, who assured him a general massacre was to take place in the valley. Maj. Spafford paid no heed to this "idle fear," until a few days thereafter a messenger came to his quarters, reporting a band of fifty Pottawatomies on the march to join the hostile tribes near Malden. They had plundered and burned Monclova, and had nearly reached the rapids.

The Major, with his family and settlers, immediately launched a barge on the river and were able to reach old Fort Miami just as the savages reached Maumee City. They could plainly witness the flames that devoured their old homes. They kept on their way in their miserable craft, until they reached Milan, where they learned that the entire country was in danger.

Although the Indians were defeated in the battle of Tippecanoe in the fall of 1811, they plotted vigorously with the English for the invasion of Ohio.

Gen. William Hull marched from the southwestern part of the State directly north, crossing the counties of Champaign, Logan, Hardin, Hancock and Wood, establishing military posts along the route and cutting a way through the wilderness of the unsettled portions. He crossed the Maumee on the 1st of July, and marched to Detroit.

Hull was evidently actuated in his succeeding disgraceful failures by two fears—lack of confidence in the ability of his troops, and the belief that they might desert him in action. He proclaimed freedom, and a necessity of submitting to the Canadians under existing circumstances. He held out inducements to the British regulars to desert their cause and essayed to pacify the savages, but he accomplished nothing beyond jeopardizing the American cause



and disgracing his army. His men became restless. Col. Miller and Col. Cass were delighted when detailed on scouting expeditions, and did not hesitate to attack advancing squads of the enemy. At last, an attack was made on the Niagara frontier, and Hull speedily abandoned his project and collected his forces at Detroit.

Meantime, Col. Proctor had reached Malden, and quickly perceiving the advantage of a post at that point, whereby he could cut off supplies and starve Hull into subjection, he massed his forces about this section, captured Van Horn and his two hundred men, and withstood the attack of Miller, although he gained nothing by so doing. Again Hull displayed his weakness by recalling his forces from further molestations.

Gen. Brock, however, reached Malden on the 13th of August, 1812, and began war preparations.

Gen. Dearborn placed a force on the Niagara frontier, but an armistice was made with the British. Hull dispatched a third party under McArthur, to open communications to the Raisin River.

Gen. Brock appeared at Sandwich and began to erect batteries, which Hull would not allow to be molested. The result was, that on the 26th of August Detroit was surrendered to the enemy, and not a blow had been struck in its defense.

By this dastardly act, 1,400 brave men who had not been permitted to make a single effort to sustain the American cause, were surrendered to 300 English regulars, 400 Canadians and their Indian allies. Gen. Hull was, in consequence of this series of "mistakes," accused of treason and cowardice, and convicted of the latter. By the middle of August, the British had gained the control over most of the Northwestern Territory.

The appointment of William Henry Harrison to the position of commander in chief of the Western forces, was most opportune. He speedily raised a vigorous army, and advanced by three routes to the foot of the rapids.

Gen. Harrison commanded the right wing, and marched by the way of Upper Sandusky, where he located his depot of supplies. Gen. Tupper commanded the center, Fort McArthur, in Hardin County, being his base, while Gen. Winchester marched from Fort Defiance down the Maumee to the foot of the rapids.

A large force of British and Indians moved up the left bank of the Maumee toward Fort Wayne, and Gen. Harrison, to intercept them, marched to the confluence of the Auglaize with the Maumee.

Harrison was aware that the enemy would be also hemmed in by Winchester. The weather was rainy, and the prospects were that a most unfortunate season was to follow the expected engagements. Harrison heard that Winchester had reached Fort Defiance, and that the Indians and British were retreating down the Maumee. He followed, and marched to Winchester's camp, where he arrived in season to quell a mutiny under command of Col. Allen, of the Kentucky troops.







In January, 1813, Winchester had reached the rapids, where he received tidings that Frenchtown was menaced and exposed. Without orders, he sent a party to the rescue, which defeated the enemy. The weather was intensely cold, and the company lay within eighteen miles of Malden, where the enemy was collected in full force, consequently re-enforcements must be dispatched immediately or the town again left to its fate.

Winchester then marched with a force of 259 men, and upon arriving at nightfall, insisted upon remaining on open ground, although warned repeatedly that this would be a most dangerous experiment.

In the morning, he was surprised by the enemy, massed directly before him, with a battery within three hundred yards of his camp, and a shower of bombs, balls and grape-shot falling among his exposed troops, and the yells of Indians reminding him of his fatal error. Lewis, who led the party out in the beginning and had apprehended the danger, bravely defended himself behind garden pickets. Winchester was defeated on the 22d of January, 1813, and the Indians were permitted to massacre the prisoners and the settlers.

Harrison fell back to the foot of the rapids. On the 1st of February, he began the construction of Fort Meigs. On the 27th of April, Proctor and Tecumseh attacked this fort, and laid siege with the full expectation of success. The stipulation was that Gen. Harrison was to be delivered to Tecumseh. While the balls and bombs were making havoc with the fort, the Indians were climbing trees and pouring a galling fire down upon the troops. Gen. Proctor invited Harrison to surrender, which was politely declined, with the assurance that the British General would have the opportunity to distinguish himself as a soldier before such a proceeding was enacted.

Gen. Clay was descending the Maumee with 1,200 Kentuckians in flat boats. Orders went from Harrison that 800 men should land on the left bank, take and spike the British cannon, and then to enter the fort, from which soldiers were to issue to assist the re-enforcements.

Capt. Hamilton was to pilot Gen. Clay to the fort, cutting their way through. All succeeded, Col. Dudley taking the batteries and spiking the cannon. But his men, too much elated by their success, against orders, and against the repeated expostulations of Col. Dudley, insisted on pursuing the Indians. Col. Dudley would not desert them. This act proved their ruin. By a decoy, they were led into a defile which proved an ambush, and the men found themselves surrounded by savages, without means of escape.

A most frightful massacre began, and every man would have fallen had not Tecumseh sternly forbidden the cowardly carnage. One of his principal chiefs ignored this order, and the next instant the great warrior buried his hatchet in his head. The brave Col. Dudley was, however, tomahawked and scalped.

There were no immediate signs that the fort would be surrendered, and the siege was raised on the 9th of May. It was renewed on the 20th of July, and abandoned a few days later. The enemy decided this stronghold was invulnerable.



On the 1st of August, the enemy proceeded to Fort Stevenson, at Lower Sandusky, garrisoned by 150 men under Maj. Croghan. The fort had the use of but one piece of cannon. The enemy with Tecumseh's Indians numbered 3,300 strong, with six pieces of cannon.

Gen. Proctor again tendered the offer to surrender, adding that a refusal would only bring about a useless resistance, and a massacre by the Indians. The reply was, that before the fort went over to the British, not an American would be left to be massacred, as they should hold out to the last man. Proctor opened fire. The first movement was an assault upon the northwest angle of the fort, as if to make a breach and thus carry the works. The commandant strengthened that point by bags of sand, and during the night stealthily placing his one cannon in a concealed position, he filled it with slugs.

The following day, the fire again swept the northwest corner, and, evening approaching, a column of 350 men swept up within twenty yards of the walls. They were met by the musketry, which had little effect, and the ditch was soon filled with men. The next instant the hidden cannon, so placed as to sweep the ditch, suddenly began action, and the surprised assailants quickly recoiled, and the fort was saved, with the loss of only one man.

The next morning, the enemy had disappeared, evidently in haste, as guns, clothing and stores were left behind. They had lost over one hundred and fifty men by this useless attempt. Croghan had previously received orders to evacuate the fort from Gen. Harrison, and his determination to hold the position merited Harrison's reprimand and remand of commission. Such was the severity of military law. However, the rank of Colonel was immediately conferred upon him by the President, for his gallantry. The ladies of Chillicothe presented him with an elegant testimonial in the shape of a sword.

It was decided to make a naval warfare effectual in the recovery of the Northwestern Territory, and accordingly vessel-building began under Commodore Perry's supervision.

The British looked upon this proceeding with derision, fully intending to use these boats for their own purpose. They publicly proclaimed their intention.

By the 1st of August, 1813, Commodore Perry set sail a flotilla, the *Lawrence* and the *Niagara*, of twenty guns each, with smaller vessels following. Some difficulty was encountered in launching the larger vessels, on account of the shallowness of the water.

Perry's first destination was Put-in-Bay, thirty miles from Malden, where the British fleet lay under the guns of the fort. On the 10th of September, the British fleet—exceeding the American by ten guns—under Commodore Barclay, appeared off Put-in-Bay, distant about ten miles. Perry immediately set sail. The wind shifting, the Americans had the advantage.

Perry hoisted the Union Jack. A general preparation was made for the conflict. An ominous silence settled over all as the fleets approached. A bugle sounded on the enemy's ship *Detroit*, and a furious fire was opened upon







the Lawrence. The frightful and desperate battle that ensued is so familiar that it is not necessary for us to repeat its details. It forever remains in history as a prominent, desperate struggle that turned the tide most decisively in favor of the Americans. Hand to hand, for three hours, this furious struggle surged, resulting in a pronounced victory for the Americans.

Commodore Perry immediately requested parole for his severely wounded antagonist, Commodore Barclay. Capt. Elliott was at this engagement highly commended by Perry for his bravery.

Gen. Harrison now made preparations to follow Proctor, and reached Malden on the 27th of September.

Proctor had retreated to Sandwich, and thence Harrison followed him, overtaking the enemy on the 9th of October, on the bank of the Thames. An engagement ensued, which was not particularly marked in its events, but which practically terminated the war in the Northwest.

Tecumseh fell during this battle, and his death disheartened the savages to such an extent that they were willing to make terms of peace. Accordingly a treaty was concluded on the 22d of July, 1814, with the Wyandots, Delawares, Shawnees, Senecas and Miamis, the tribes engaged in hostilities.

Again Ohio was able to turn her attention to the improvements within her own boundaries. Weary and disabled though she was, her ambition and energy were unimpaired. The struggle had been severe, but a grand reward had been won, and peace and independence belonged to these sturdy, earnest, pioneers.

In 1815, a town was founded near Fort Meigs, and, in 1816, Gen. John E. Hunt and Judge Robert A. Forsythe located at Maumee.

#### BANKING.

Up to the year 1817, Ohio had no banking system, and on the 28th of January of that year, the United States Bank opened a branch at Cincinnati, and yet another during the following October at Chillicothe. These branches found a large amount of business to transact, and while being of assistance in various ways to the State, also received a fine revenue themselves. The State therefore resolved upon a tax levy, and, in 1819, the branches were to pay \$50,000 each, and the State Auditor was authorized to issue his warrant for the collection of the same.

The bank branches demurred, but the State was decided, and the banks accordingly filed a bill in chancery, in the United States Circuit Court, setting forth reasons whereby their prayer that Ralph Osborn, State Auditor, should be restrained from making such collection, should be seriously considered.

Osborn being counseled not to appear on the day designated in the writ, an injunction was obtained, with the security given in the shape of bonds from the bank, to the amount of \$100,000. On the 14th of September, the bank sent a commissioner to Columbus, who served upon the Auditor a copy of the petition



for the injunction, and a subpoena to make an appearance before the court on the first Monday in the following January. Osborn submitted both the petition and the injunction to the Secretary of State, with his warrant for collecting the tax. Legally, the matter was somewhat complicated.

The Auditor desired the Secretary of State to take legal advice, and if the papers did not actually amount to an injunction, to give orders for the execution of the warrant.

The decision was that the papers did not equal a valid injunction. The State writ for collection was therefore given over to John L. Harper, with directions to enter the banking-house and demand the payment of the tax. In case of a refusal, the vault was to be entered and a levy made upon the amount required. No violence was to be used, and if force was used to deter the act, the same was to be reported to a proper magistrate and an affidavit made to that fact.

On September 17, Mr. Harper went about his errand, taking with him T. Orr and J. MacCollister. After securing access to the vault, a demand was made for the payment of the tax. This was promptly refused, and a notice given of the granting of the injunction. This was disregarded, and the officer seized \$98,000 in gold, silver and notes. This was placed in charge of the State Treasurer, Mr. H. M. Curry.

The officers were arrested and imprisoned by the United States Circuit Court, and the money returned to the bank. The case was reviewed by the Supreme Court, and the measures of the Circuit Court were sustained. The State, therefore, submitted. In the mean time, the Legislature had prepared and passed a resolution, as follows:

*Resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That in respect to the powers of the Governments of the several States that compose the American Union, and the powers of the Federal Government, this General Assembly do recognize and approve the doctrines asserted by the Legislatures of Kentucky and Virginia in their resolutions of November and December, 1798, and January, 1800, and do consider their principles have been recognized and adopted by a majority of the American people.*

*Resolved further, That this General Assembly do assert and will maintain by all legal and constitutional means, the rights of States to tax the business and property of any private corporation of trade, incorporated by the Congress of the United States, and located to transact its corporate business within any State.*

*Resolved further, That the bank of the United States is a private corporation of trade, the capital and business of which may be legally taxed in any State where they may be found.*

*Resolved further, That the General Assembly do protest against the doctrines that the political rights of the separate States that compose the American Union and their powers as sovereign States, may be settled and determined in the Supreme Court of the United States, so as to conclude and bind them in cases contrived between individuals, and where they are, no one of them, parties direct.*

The bank was thus debarred from the aid of State laws in the collection of its dues and in the protection of its rights. An attempt was made to effect a change in the Federal constitution, which would take the case out of the United States Courts. This, however, proved ineffectual.







The banking system in Ohio has, by reason of State surveillance, not been subjected to those whirlwind speculations and questionable failures which have marked many Western States, in the establishment of a firm basis upon which a banking law could be sustained, with mutual benefit to the institution and the people.

#### THE CANAL SYSTEM.

In the first part of 1817, the Legislature considered a resolution relating to a canal between Lake Erie and the Ohio River. No action was taken and the subject was not again agitated until 1819. Gov. Brown appointed three commissioners in 1820, for the purpose of employing an efficient engineer and such assistants as he deemed necessary, for the purpose of surveying a practical route for this canal. The commissioners were restricted in their actions until Congress should accept a proposition in behalf of the State, for a donation and sale of the public lands lying upon and near the route of the proposed canal. A delay was thus occasioned for two years.

In 1822, the matter was referred to a committee of the House of Representatives. This committee approved and recommended the employment of the engineer. They furthermore added illustrations to prove the feasibility of the project.

James Geddes, a skillful engineer of New York, was in due time appointed to the position and instructed to make the necessary examinations and surveys.

The surveys were made, and estimates given of the expenses, which documents were laid before the Legislature at several sessions.

In 1825, an act was passed providing for the internal improvement of the State by navigable canals. Directly thereafter, the State set vigorously about the work of constructing two canals, one leading from the Ohio to Lake Erie, by way of the valleys of the Scioto and Muskingum, the other from Cincinnati to Dayton.

The first canal-boat from Cincinnati to Dayton, reached her destination in 1829, on the 25th of January. This outlet of communication was extended to Lake Erie, and was completed in 1845. The largest artificial lake now known is on the elevation between the Ohio and the lake, in Mercer County, and supplies the St. Mary's feeder of the Miami Canal, about three miles distant, eastwardly. This reservoir is about nine miles long, and from two to four broad.

Two walls of earth, from ten to twenty feet high, were formed, on the east and west, which united with the elevations north and south, surrounded this basin. When the water was admitted, whole farms were submerged, and the "neighbors" complained lest this overflow should tempt miasma. So great was the excitement, that over one hundred and fifty residents of the county united, and with shovels and spades, made a breach in the embankment. Many holding prominent positions in the county were engaged in this work,



and all laid themselves liable to the State laws, which made the despoiling of public works a penitentiary offense.

The matter was taken up by the courts, but a grand jury could not be found in Mercer County to find a bill of indictment.

The officers who had charge of the work, ignored the law requiring the cutting and saving of the timber on lands appropriated, for canal reservoirs. The trees were ruthlessly girdled, and thousands of acres of valuable timber that might have been highly desirable in the building of bridges, etc., were destroyed. However, an adjustment was finally effected, and the work was prosecuted with the entire approbation of the people, who were convinced that convenient transportation was to be desired.

#### OHIO LAND TRACTS.

After the Indians relinquished all claims against the lands of those States west of the Alleghanies, as they had been obtained by conquest, the United States, as a government, owned the soil. When Ohio was admitted into the Union, a stipulation was made that the fee simple to all the lands within its boundaries, with the exception of those previously sold or granted, should vest in the General Government. At the present writing, but few tracts remain that can be called "public lands." In this, as in other States, tracts are designated by their pioneer signification or the purpose to which they were originally devoted. In Ohio, these tracts are known as :

- |                             |                      |                        |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Congress Lands.          | 8. Symmes' Purchase. | 15. Maumee Road.       |
| 2. United States Military.  | 9. Refugee Tract.    | 16. School Lands.      |
| 3. Virginia Military.       | 10. French Grant.    | 17. College Lands.     |
| 4. Western Reserve.         | 11. Dohrman's Grant. | 18. Ministerial Lands. |
| 5. Fire Lands.              | 12. Zane's Grant.    | 19. Moravian Lands.    |
| 6. Ohio Company's Purchase. | 13. Canal Lands.     | 20. Salt Sections.     |
| 7. Donation Tract.          | 14. Turnpike Lands.  |                        |

The lands sold by the direct officers of the Government, under the direction of Congress, according to the laws, are known as Congress lands. They are properly surveyed, and laid out in townships six miles square, under the direction of the Government, and the expense incurred settled by Congress. These townships are subdivided into sections, containing 640 acres. One section is reserved, in every township, for educational purposes, to be utilized in any manner approved by the State as being the best to aid the cause for which they are assigned.

*The Western Reserve* will be remembered as the tract originally belonging to Connecticut. It lies in the northeast quarter of the State. A half-million acres were donated by the old Eastern State, when her claim was in force, to sufferers from fire during the Revolutionary war, which created the name, "fire lands." Many settled here whose homes were destroyed by the British during the war.

It will be remembered, that on account of discoveries by subjects of empires, in the New World, the "Old World" kings laid claim to different portions







of the young continent. At that period, European knowledge of American geographical positions and limits was exceedingly meager, which occasioned several wars and more discussions. These Old-World sovereigns also assumed the authority to sell or present tracts of land to their subjects, in those territories they deemed their own.

King Charles II of England granted to his loyal subjects the colony of Connecticut, in 1662, placing with them a charter of right to all lands within certain prescribed boundaries. But these "boundaries" frequently conflicted with those of others, and sometimes extended to the Pacific Ocean, or "South Sea," as it was then termed. Connecticut, by her original charter rights, held all lands between the forty-first and forty-second parallels of north latitude, and from Providence Plantation on the east, to Pacific Ocean on the west, excepting the New York and Pennsylvania colonies. As late as the establishment of the United States as an independent government, those colliding claims frequently engendered confusion and warm discussion between the nation and Connecticut, regarding the original colony claim. This was compromised by the national claims being relinquished in regard to the territorial claim in Ohio, and Connecticut holding the 3,800,000 acres described as the "Western Reservation." The Government held the right of jurisdiction.

In 1796, Congress set aside a certain division of land, to satisfy the claims of officers and soldiers of the Revolutionary war. It includes the 2,500,000 acres between the Greenville treaty line and the Congress and refugee lands, and "VII ranges of townships," on the east, and the Scioto River, west. This constitutes the "Military Tract." The "Virginia Military Tract" lies between the Scioto and Little Miami Rivers, and extends south to the Ohio.

James I, in his authorized charter to the Virginia colony, in the year 1609, made rather visionary boundary lines, sweeping over the continent, west of the Ohio River, "of the north and south breadth of Virginia." Virginia reconciled the matter by relinquishing all her claims northwest of the Ohio River, with the exception of a tract for the purpose of donating the same to her troops of the Revolution—their claims demanding such a return in some section. Unfortunately, this tract was not regularly surveyed, and conflicting "lines" have given rise to litigation ever since that stipulation was made.

The Ohio Company's Purchase has already been described—as has the Symmes Purchase.

The Refugee Tract covers an area of 100,000 acres, extending eastwardly from the Scioto River forty-eight miles, in a strip of country four and one-half miles broad, north to south. *Columbus*, the capital of the State, is situated in the western portion. This land was donated by Congress to those individuals who left the British dominions and rule, during the Revolution, and espoused the American cause.

The French Tract borders on the Ohio River, in the southeastern quarter of Scioto County. It includes 24,000 acres, and was ceded to those French



families that lost their claims at Gallipolis, through invalid titles ; 12,000 acres were added, after the above grant of 1795.

Dohrman's Grant includes a section, six miles square, in the southeastern portion of Tuscarawas County. It was granted to Arnold Henry Dohrman, a Portuguese merchant, as a token of appreciation of the aid and shelter he rendered American cruisers and vessels of war, during the Revolution.

The Moravian Lands were originally grants by the old Continental Congress, in 1787, and confirmed by the act of the Government Congress, in 1796, to the Moravian Brethren, of Bethlehem, Penn., in sacred trust, and for the use of those Indians who embraced Christianity and civilization, desiring to live and settle thereon. These three tracts include 4,000 acres each, and are situated in Tuscarawas County. In 1823, the Indians relinquished their rights to the 12,000 acres in this county, for 24,000 acres, in a territory designated by the United States, together with an annuity of \$400.

Zane's Tracts included a portion of land on the Muskingum, whereon Zanesville was built ; another at the crossing of the Hocking, on which Lancaster is located ; and yet another on the left bank of the Scioto River, opposite Chilli-cothe. These grants were made to Ebenezer Zane, by Congress, in 1796, as a reward for opening a road from Wheeling, Va., to Maysville, Ky. In 1802, Mr. Zane received three additional tracts, one square mile each, in consideration of being captured and held a prisoner, during the Revolutionary war, when a boy, by the Indians. He lived with these people most of his life, securing many benefits for the Americans. These tracts are located in Champaign County.

The Maumee Road Lands extend the length of the road, from the Maumee River, at Perrysburg, to the western limits of the Western Reserve, a distance of forty-six miles—in a strip two miles wide. This includes about 60,000 acres. These lands were ceded by the Indians, at the treaty of Brownstown, in 1808. The original intention of Congress was to mark a highway through this strip, but no definite action was taken until 1823, when the land was ceded to the State of Ohio, under an obligation that the State make and sustain the projected road, within four years after the transfer.

The Turnpike Lands extended over 31,360 acres along the western side of the Columbus & Sandusky Turnpike, in the eastern parts of Seneca, Crawford and Marion Counties. They were designed for the transportation of mail stages, troops and other United States property, free from toll. The grant was made in 1827.

"The Ohio Canal Lands" comprise about 1,000,000 acres, set aside for the purpose of canal construction.

When Ohio was admitted to the Union, a guarantee was given that the State should not tax Government lands until they should have been sold for five years. That the thirty-sixth part of all territory within the State limits should be devoted to educational purposes, for the general benefit of the population. In







order to secure tracts which would prove available, and thus insure returns, they were selected in small lots. No. 16 was designated as the sectional portion, in each township of Congress lands, the Ohio Company's and Symmes Purchases, the United States Military Lands, the Connecticut Reserve, and a number of quarter townships. These school lands were selected by the Secretary of the Treasury.

The college townships are thirty-six miles square. A section, thirty-six miles square, in the center of Jackson County, in the vicinity and containing the Scioto Salt Licks, was also reserved by Congress, together with a quarter-mile township in Delaware County. This swept over 27,040 acres. In 1824, Congress authorized the State to sell these lands. The proceeds were to be devoted to literary requirements, such as might be specified by Congress.

#### IMPROVEMENTS.

We have heretofore briefly alluded to the canal system of Ohio, which in the beginning caused considerable anxiety to settlers directly in the course of its survey. The Legislature passed the "Internal Improvement by Navigable Canals" act, in 1825, and the work was immediately inaugurated and hastened. The "Ohio Canal" extends from the lake to the Ohio, and the "Miami" connects Cincinnati with Dayton. The latter was completed to Toledo in 1844, a length of 493 miles. Its total cost, including reservoir cutting and feeders, was \$7,500,000. The Ohio Canal was finished in 1833.

During the construction of these canals, the curiosities which have attracted antiquarians and scientists, in the State of Ohio, were found in various places. Relics were discovered that must have belonged to a giant race. Nearly 3,000 graves were found, of the "mound type."

A third canal was begun in 1836, reaching from Walhonding, in Coshocton County, to Roscoe, its length being twenty-five miles, involving an expense of \$610,000. This was completed in 1842. The Hocking Canal, between Carroll, in Fairfield County, and Athens, in Athens County, a distance of fifty-six miles, was also cut, about the same time, at a cost of nearly \$1,000,000.

The Muskingum improvements were also being carried forward. Locks and dams were requisite for the perfection of navigation in this water-course, from Dresden to Marietta, a distance of ninety-one miles. This added an expense of \$1,630,000 to the call for improvement appropriations. To the Miami Canal was added a feeder, known as the Warren County Canal—extending from Franklin to Lebanon, which was not completed, although over \$250,000 were expended in its construction as far as it went.

Railway transportation was a subject which engrossed the attention of those interested in State perpetuity and general prosperity. About the year 1831, the Legislature received applications for railway charters. The first one granted was the "Cincinnati, Sandusky & Cleveland Railroad," on June 5, 1832. The "Sandusky, Mansfield & Newark Railroad" obtained a charter in 1836, March 11, followed,





*John Devore*

GREENVILLE





three days thereafter, by the "Cleveland, Columbus & Cincinnati Railroad." The "Little Miami" was begun in 1837. Notwithstanding these chartered rights, but 129 miles were completed in 1847, and in operation. In 1878, the mileage had increased to 6,264. The valuation of the operating roads was estimated the same year, at \$76,113,500. Their taxation summed up \$1,128,116.

No State in the Union has been more zealous in her educational interests than Ohio. Public lands were generously granted by Congress, and the State added her affirmation. However, no practical and effectual system was adopted until 1825.

An act was then passed to tax all real property one-half mill per dollar for the establishment of schools in each township, and the support of the same. An act of 1829, increased the tax to three-fourths of a mill. Trustees of townships were instructed to make divisions and locate convenient school districts. Householders were to elect three school directors, a clerk and treasurer annually. Privileges and restrictions were enjoined in all cases. The householders were allowed their discretion, governed accordingly, in imposing taxes for the erection of school buildings. The Courts of the Common Pleas appointed a committee to examine the qualifications of those individuals making application for the position of teachers. The school extended equal privileges to all white children. Those of colored parentage were excluded, and no tax was levied for school purposes upon colored parents. An amendment has admitted the children of colored parents. The system has continued the same, with a few amendments. A State Commissioner of Common Schools is elected every third year, who has general charge of the interests of public schools. A State Board of Examiners, composed of three persons, appointed by the State Commissioner, for two years' term, is authorized to issue life certificates of high qualifications, to such teachers as it may find to possess the requisite scholarship, character, experience and ability. These certificates, signed by the Commissioner, are valid throughout the State. A County Board of Examiners, of three members, is formed in each county. Boards of education, for cities, are made up of one or two members from each ward. City Boards of Examiners are also appointed. Section 4 of the law of 1873, was amended in 1877, which made the territory annexed to an incorporated village, at the option of the voters of the village and tributary section, whether it be included with the village as one school district, or left as two school districts. Section 56 of the law was amended, in its bearing upon cities of 30,000 to 75,000 inhabitants, by limiting to five mills on the dollar of taxable property, the levies in such cities for continuing schools, for purchasing sites for schoolhouses, for leasing, purchasing, erecting and furnishing school houses, and for all school expenses. The public funds are subject to the discretion of voters, and boards are authorized, under instructions, to make the best use of such funds. Taxation is subject to the discretion of the State, certain limits being prescribed.



In 1878, the number of youth of the school age numbered 1,041,963. On the rolls, 740,194 names were recorded. In the year 1878, 23,391 teachers were employed, receiving \$4,956,514.46 for their services.

Ohio not only sustains her public schools on a broad, liberal basis, but she encourages educational pursuits in superior universities and colleges throughout the State. These institutions are not aided by State funds, but are sustained by society influence, added to their self-supporting resources. Ohio also possesses a large number of normal schools, academies, seminaries and business colleges. These are not entitled to the privileges of the school fund. Scientific, professional, theological, legal and medical instructions are in no manner limited in their facilities. Industrial and reformatory schools are especially thorough. Institutions for the instruction of the deaf and dumb, and blind, and feeble-minded, are under the best discipline.

We may add, many female seminaries have been established which are entirely sustained by other than State aid. Ohio has, from its inception, been solid and vigorous in whatever tended toward improvement and enlightenment.

We have also referred to the banking system of this State, as being first established on a basis through a contest between the State and the General Government. Authorities differ regarding the exact date and location of the very first house established in the State for the purpose of transacting banking business. It is highly probable that Marietta is more directly associated with that event than any other town. There are at present over one hundred and sixty-seven national banks, with an aggregate capital of \$27,794,468. It also has eighteen banks of deposit, incorporated under the State banking laws of 1845, representing an aggregate capital of \$539,904. Twenty-three savings banks, incorporated under the State act of 1875, with an aggregate capital of \$1,277,500. Of private banks it has 192, with an aggregate capital of \$5,663,898. The State represents in her banking capital over \$36,275,770. The First National of Cincinnati has a capital stock of over \$1,000,000. The others fall below that sum, their capital diminishing from 10,000 shares of \$100 each. The valuation for taxation is \$850,000—Merchant's National of Cincinnati—to the valuation of a tax of \$5,000 on the First National of Beverly.

#### BOUNDARY LINES.

We must not omit the subject of the State boundaries. Ohio was especially the field for most animated discussions, relative not only to State limits but county lines and township rights. In 1817, a severe controversy arose, which was settled only after violent demonstrations and Government interference.

In primitive times, the geographical position, extent and surface diversities were but meagerly comprehended. In truth, it may be asserted they could not have been more at variance with actual facts had they been laid out "haphazard." The ordinance of 1787 represented Lake Michigan far north of its real position, and even as late as 1812, its size and location had not been







definitely ascertained. During that year, Amos Spafford addressed a clear, comprehensive letter to the Governor of Ohio, on this subject, relative to the boundary lines of Ohio. Several lines of survey were laid out as the first course, but either Michigan or Ohio expressed disapproval in every case. This culminated in 1835, when the party beginning a "permanent" survey began at the northwest corner of the State, and was attacked by a force of Michigan settlers who sent them away badly routed and beaten. No effort was made to return to the work until the State and various parties had weighed the subject, and finally the interposition of the Government became necessary.

A settlement resulted in Ohio being bounded on the north by Lake Erie and the State of Michigan, on the east by Pennsylvania and West Virginia, on the south by the Ohio River, and on the west by Indiana.

It is situated between the  $38^{\circ} 25'$  and  $42^{\circ}$  north latitude, and  $84^{\circ} 50'$  west longitude from Greenwich, or  $3^{\circ} 30'$  and  $7^{\circ} 50'$  west from Washington. From north to south, it extends over 210 miles, and from east to west 220 miles—comprising 39,964 square miles.

The State is generally higher than the Ohio River. In the southern counties, the surface is greatly diversified by the inequalities produced by the excavating power of the Ohio River and its tributaries. The greater portion of the State was originally covered with timber, although in the central and northwestern sections some prairies were found. The crest or watershed between the waters of Lake Erie and those of the Ohio is less elevated than in New York or Pennsylvania. Sailing upon the Ohio the country appears to be mountainous, bluffs rising to the height of two hundred and fifty to six hundred feet above the valleys. Ascending the tributaries of the Ohio, these precipitous hills gradually lessen until they are resolved into gentle undulations, and toward the sources of the river the land is low and marshy.

Although Ohio has no inland lakes of importance, she possesses a favorable river system, which, aided by her canals, gives her prestige of a convenient water transportation. The lake on her northern boundary, and the Ohio River on her southern limit, afford most convenient outlets by water to important points. Her means of communication and transportation are superior in every respect, and are constantly being increased.

#### ORGANIZATION OF COUNTIES AND EARLY EVENTS.

Adams County was named in honor of John Adams, second President of the United States. Gov. St. Clair proclaimed it a county on July 10, 1797. The Virginia Military Tract included this section, and the first settlement made within its boundaries was in this county in 1795, between the Scioto and Little Miami, at Manchester, by Gen. Nathaniel Massie. In this town was held the first court of the county.

West Union, the present county seat, was laid out by the Hon. Thomas Kirker. It occupies the summit of a high ridge. The surface of this county is



hilly and broken, and the eastern part is not fertile. It produces corn, wheat, oats and pork. Beds of iron are found in the eastern part. Its hills are composed of aluminous shale. The barren hills afford a range for cattle and hogs. A sort of vagrant class derive a support by collecting stones, hoop-poles and tanners' barks from these hills.

Ashland County is one of the finest agricultural sections. It was formed February 26, 1846. Wheat comprises its principal crop, although large quantities of oats, corn, potatoes, grass and fruit are raised. Ashland is its county seat, and was laid out by William Montgomery in 1816. It was called Uniontown for several years. Daniel Carter raised the first cabin within the county limits in 1811.

Auglaize County was formed in February, 1848, from Allen and Mercer Counties. Wapakoneta is its county seat.

Allen County was formed from the Indian Territory April 1, 1820. Lima is its county seat.

Ashtabula County was formed June 7, 1807, and was organized January 22, 1811. The surface is level near the lake, while the remainder is undulating. The soil is mostly clay. Very little wheat is raised, but considerable corn and oats. Butter and cheese are the main marketable productions. This was the first county settled on the Western Reserve, and also the earliest in Northern Ohio. On the 4th of July, 1796, the first surveying party arrived at the mouth of Conneaut Creek. Judge James Kingsbury was the first who wintered there with his family. He was the first man to use a sickle in the first wheat-field in the Western Reserve. Their child was the first born on the Western Reserve, and was starved to death. The first regular settlement was at Harpersfield, in 1798.

Jefferson is the county seat. Ashtabula is pleasantly situated on the river, with a fine harbor two and a half miles from the village.

The first church on the Western Reserve was founded at Austinburg in 1801.

Athens County was formed from Washington March 1, 1805. It produces wheat, corn, oats and tobacco. The surface is hilly and broken, with rich bottom lands between. Coal, iron ore and salt add materially to its commercial value. It has the advantage of the canal, as well as other transportation. Athens, its county seat, is situated on the Hocking River. The Ohio University, the first college founded in the State, is located here. We have mentioned the ancient mounds found in this county, heretofore. Yellow pine is abundant in the lower part of the Hocking Valley.

Brown County was formed March 1, 1817, from Adams and Clermont. It produces wheat, corn, rye, oats and pork. The southern part is prolific in grain, while the northern is adapted to grazing purposes. The surface is undulating, with the exception of the Ohio River hills. Over this county Tecumseh once held sway.







Georgetown is the county seat, and was laid out in 1819. Ripley is the largest business town in the county.

Belmont County was announced by Gov. St. Clair September 7, 1801. It produces large crops of wheat, oats, corn and tobacco, an annual crop of over 2,000,000 pounds of the latter being the average. It also trades largely in wool and coal. It is a picturesque tract of country, and was one of the pioneers in the early settled portions.

In 1790, Fort Dillie was erected on the west side of the Ohio. Baker's Fort was a mile below the mouth of the Captina. Many desperate Indian battles were fought within the limits of this county, and the famous Indian scout, Lewis Wetzel, roamed over the region.

St. Clairsville is the county seat, situated on the elevation of land, in a fertile district. Capt. Kirkwood and Elizabeth Zane, of historic fame, were early pioneers here.

Butler County was formed in 1803, from Hamilton. It is within the blue limestone formation, and one of the most fertile sections of Ohio. It produces more corn than any other county in the State, besides fine crops of wheat, oats and large quantities of pork. Hamilton, the county seat, is situated on the Great Miami. Its hydraulic works furnish superior water-power. Rossville, on the opposite side of the Miami, is a large mercantile town.

St. Clair passed through this county on his Indian campaigns in 1791, building Fort Hamilton on the Miami.

Champaign County was formed March 1, 1805, from Greene and Franklin. It is drained by Mad River and its tributaries, which furnishes extensive mill privileges. Nearly a half is undulating, a quarter rolling, a fifth hilly, and 5 per cent wet prairie. The soil is fertile, and produces wheat, corn, oats, barley, hay, while beef and wool add to the general wealth. Urbana, the county seat, was laid out in 1805, by Col. William Ward. He was chief owner of the land and donated many lots to the county, under condition that their proceeds be devoted to public improvements. Joseph Vance and George Fithian were the first settlers. The Methodists built the first church in 1807. The main army of Hull concentrated at this point before setting out for Detroit. Many Indian councils were called here, and Tecumseh was located for a time near Deer Creek.

Carroll County was formed from Columbiana in 1832-33. It produces wheat, oats and corn, and valuable coal and iron. The surface is hilly. Carrollton is its county seat. At Harlem is a celebrated chalybeate spring.

Clark County was formed March 1, 1817, from Champaign, Madison and Greene. Its first settlement was at Chribb's Station, in 1796. It is highly cultivated, well watered and very fertile. The Mad River, Buck and Beaver Creeks furnish abundant water-power. It produces principally wheat, corn and oats.

Tecumseh, the old Indian warrior, was born at the ancient Indian village, Piqua, on the Mad River, on the present site of West Boston. Piqua was



destroyed by Gen. George Rogers Clarke. Skeletons, beads, gun barrels, tomahawks, kettles, etc., have been found in the vicinity.

Springfield, the county seat, is situated on the National road. It has convenient transportation facilities, is handsomely laid out, and is noted for its cultured citizens. It is near Mad River, and Buck Creek runs through it.

Clinton County was formed in 1810. It produces chiefly wheat, oats, wool and pork. Its surface is undulating, in some parts hilly, and the soil fertile. Its streams furnish desirable water-power. The county was settled in 1803. Wilmington is the county seat, and was laid out in 1811. The first log house was built by William Hobsin.

Clermont County was the eighth formed in the Northwest Territory, by proclamation of Gov. St. Clair, December 9, 1800. The soil is exceedingly rich, and the surface is broken and, near the Ohio, hilly. Wheat, corn, oats, hay, potatoes, tobacco, barley, buckwheat and rye form the main crops, while beef, pork, flour, hay and whisky constitute its main exports. Its streams furnish good water-power. Batavia, its county seat, is situated on the Little Miami River, and was laid out in 1820, by George Ely.

Columbiana County was formed March 25, 1803, from Jefferson and Washington. Its soil is very fertile, producing wheat, corn, oats and potatoes. It is wealthy in mineral deposits, coal, iron ore, lime and freestone being abundant. Its water-lime stone is of superior quality. Salt water is found on Yellow and Beaver Creeks. This is also the great wool-producing county of the State. It was settled in 1797. New Lisbon, its county seat, is well built.

The first paper-mill in Ohio was erected in this county, on Little Beaver Creek, by John Coulter and John Bever.

Coshocton County was organized April 1, 1811. Its principal products are wheat, corn, oats and wool. Hills and valleys alternate along the Muskingum River. Abrupt changes are strongly marked—a rich alluvium being overhung by a red-bush hill, while directly beside it may be seen the poplar and sugar tree. Coal and iron ore add to its general importance, while salt wells have proven remunerative.

Coshocton, the county seat, is built on four wide, natural terraces, at the junction of the Tuscarawas with the Walhonding.

Cuyahoga County was formed June 7, 1807, from Geauga. Near the lake, the soil is sandy, while a clayey loam may be found elsewhere. The valleys near the streams produce wheat, barley and hay. Fruit is successfully grown, and cheese, butter, beef and wool are largely exported. Bog iron is found in the western part, and fine grindstone quarries are in operation. The sandstone from these quarries is now an important article of commerce. As early as 1775, there was a French settlement within the boundaries of Cuyahoga. In 1786, a Moravian missionary came to the present site of Cleveland, and settled in an abandoned village of the Ottawas. Circumstances prevented a







permanent settlement, and the British tacitly took possession, even remaining upon the lake shores after the Revolution.

The first permanent settlement was made at Cleveland in 1796. Mr. Job V. Stiles and family and Edward Paine passed the first winter there, their log cabin standing where the Commercial Bank is now located. Rodolphus Edwards and Nathaniel Doane settled here. The town was, in 1813, a depot of supplies and a rendezvous for troops engaged in the war.

Cleveland, the county seat, is situated at the northern termination of the Ohio Canal, on the lake shore. In 1814, it was incorporated as a village, and in 1836, as a city. Its elevation is about a hundred feet above the lake. It is a lovely city, and has one of the best harbors on Lake Erie.

Ohio City is another important town, nearly opposite Cleveland, on the Cuyahoga. It was incorporated in 1836.

Crawford County was formed April 1, 1820, from the old Indian territory. The entire county is adapted to grazing. The soil is generally composed of rich vegetable loam, and in some parts the subsoil is clay mixed with lime. Rich beds of shell marl have been discovered. It produces wheat, corn, oats, clover, timothy seed, wool and cattle. Fine limestone quarries are worked with success.

Bucyrus is the county seat, and was laid out February 11, 1822, by Samuel Norton and James Kilbourn, original owners of the land. The first settler in the town proper was Samuel Norton. A gas well has been dug in Bucyrus, on the land of R. W. Musgrove, which burns in a brilliant light when conducted to the surface by means of pipes. Crawford's Sulphur Springs are located nine miles from Bucyrus. The water is impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen. It deposits a reddish-purple sediment. In its nature the water is a cathartic, and is diuretic and diaphoretic in its effects. A few rods away is a burning spring. The Annapolis Sulphur Spring is clear and has gained considerable fame by its curative qualities. Opposite Bucyrus is a chalybeate spring of tonic qualities.

There are some beds of peat in the county, the most extensive one being a wet prairie called Cranberry Marsh, containing nearly 2,000 acres.

Darke County was organized in March, 1817, from Miami County. It is abundantly timbered with poplar, walnut, blue ash, hickory, beech and sugar maple. It yields superior wheat, and is well adapted to grazing. In this county occurred the lamentable defeat of St. Clair, and the treaty of Greenville.

Greenville is the county seat, and was laid out August 10, 1808, by Robert Gray and John Dover. In December, 1793, Wayne built Fort Greenville on this spot, which covered about the same extent as the present town.

Delaware County was formed February 10, 1808, from Franklin. It produces mainly wheat, corn, oats, pork and wool.

Delaware is the county seat, and was laid out in the spring of 1808, by Moses Byxbe. The Delaware Spring in the village is of the white sulphur or



cold hydro-sulphurous nature, valuable for medicinal qualities in cases of bilious derangements, dyspepsia, scrofulous affections, etc.

Defiance County was inaugurated March 4, 1845, from Williams, Henry and Paulding. The Maumee, Tiffin and Auglaize flow through it. The Black Swamp covers much of its area.

Defiance, the county seat, is situated on the Maumee. It was laid out in 1822, by B. Level and H. Phillips. A large Indian settlement occupied its site in very early times. Wayne arrived here August 8, 1794, captured the place, finding about one thousand acres of corn, peach and apple orchards, and vegetables of all varieties. Here he built Fort Defiance.

Erie County was formed in 1838, from Huron and Sandusky. The soil is alluvial, and yields large crops of wheat, corn, oats and potatoes. It possesses inexhaustible quarries of limestone and freestone. Immense quantities of bog iron are also found. The Erie tribe is said to have once occupied the land, and were extirpated by the Iroquois. As early as 1754, the French had built settlements. In 1764, the county was besieged. Pontiac came here with warlike demonstrations, but made peace with the whites. Erie was included in the "fire lands" of the Western Reserve.

Sandusky City is the county seat, and was laid out in 1817, then termed Portland. At that time it contained two log huts. The town is finely situated, and is based upon an inexhaustible quarry of the finest limestone. In the "patriot war" with the Canadians, this city was the rendezvous for the "patriots."

Franklin County was formed April 30, 1803, from Ross. It contains much low wet land, and is better adapted to grazing than agricultural purposes. It was in early times occupied by the Wyandot Indians. Its first white settlement was made in 1797, by Robert Armstrong and others. Franklinton was laid out in 1797, by Lucas Sullivan. Worthington was settled by the Scioto Company in 1801. Col. Kilbourn, who was interested in the work, constructed the first map of Ohio during his explorations, by uniting sectional diagrams.

Columbus, the capital of the State of Ohio, is also the county seat of Franklin County. After the organization of a State government, the capital was "portable" until 1816. In 1810, the sessions were held at Chillicothe, in 1811 and 1812 at Zanesville, removing again to Chillicothe, and, in 1816, being located at Columbus. The town was laid out during the spring of 1812. A penitentiary was erected in 1813, and the State House was built in 1814. It was incorporated as "the borough of Columbus," February 10, 1816. The city charter was granted March 3, 1834.

It is beautifully located on the east bank of the Scioto. The Columbus Institute is a classical institution. A female and a theological seminary also add to its educational advantages. The Ohio Lunatic Asylum is also located here—also the Ohio Institution for the Education of the Blind. East of the







State House is the Ohio Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb.

Fairfield County was formed by proclamation of Gov. St. Clair, December 9, 1800.

The soil is varied, being in some parts exceedingly rich, and in others very sterile. It produces principally wheat, corn, rye, oats, buckwheat, barley, potatoes and tobacco.

Lancaster is the county seat, laid out by Ebenezer Zane in 1800. In 1797, he opened the road known as "Zane's Trace," from Wheeling to Limestone—now Maysville. It passed through Lancaster, at a fording about three hundred yards below the present turnpike bridge. Near the turn stands an imposing eminence called "Standing Stone." Parties of pleasure frequently visit this spot.

Fayette County was formed from Ross and Highland in 1810. Wheat, corn, cattle, hogs, sheep and wool comprise its main productions. "The barrens" are situated in the northeastern part. This tract is covered by a growth of grass.

Washington is its county seat, laid out in 1810.

Col. Stewart was active in the interests of this section, and his memory is sacredly revered. Jesse Milliken was prominent in public affairs.

Fulton County, bordering on Michigan, was organized in 1850. It is drained by Bean Creek and other small affluents of the Maumee River. The surface is nearly level, and a large part of it is covered with forests of ash, beech, elm, hickory, white oak, black walnut, etc., furnishing excellent timber. The soil is fertile. Wheat, corn, oats and hay are the staple products. Waukegon is the county seat.

Guernsey County was organized in March, 1810. Wool is a staple product, together with beef, horses and swine. It produces wheat, corn and oats.

Cambridge is the county seat and was laid out in June, 1806. Mr. Graham was the first settler on the site of the town, and his was the only dwelling between Lancaster and Wheeling.

The first cannel coal found in the county was discovered near Mill's Creek.

Greene County was formed May 1, 1803, from Hamilton and Ross. It produces wheat, corn, rye, grass-seed, oats, barley, sheep and swine. The streams furnish good water-power. There are five limestone quarries, and a marble quarry of variegated colors. The Shawnee town was on the Little Miami, and was visited by Capt. Thomas Bullit in 1773. When Daniel Boone was captured in 1778, he was brought to this town, and escaped the following year. Gen. Clarke invaded this county and the Indians reduced the town to ashes.

Xenia, the county seat, was laid off in the forest in 1803, by Joseph C. Vance. The first cabin was erected in April, 1804, by John Marshall. The Rev. James Fowler built the first hewed-log cabin. David A. Sanders built the first frame house. Nine miles north of the town, on the Little Miami River, are the Yellow Springs, which are impregnated with sulphur.



Geauga County was formed in 1805 from Trumbull. It exports sheep, cattle, butter and cheese. It is situated at the head of Charginer, Cuyahoga and a part of Grand Rivers, on high ground, and is subjected to snowstorms more frequently than any other part of the Reserve. Its first settlement was made in 1798, at Burton. Chardon is fourteen miles from Lake Erie, and is 600 feet above it. It was laid out as the county seat in 1808.

Gallia County was formed April 30, 1803, from Washington. Its principal crops are wheat, corn, oats and beans. The surface is generally broken. Its first settlement was made in 1791, by a French colony, at Gallipolis. This colony was sent out under the auspices of the Scioto Company. This town is now the county seat.

Hamilton County was the second established in the Northwestern Territory by proclamation of Gov. St. Clair, January 2, 1790. Its surface is generally rolling. It produces the ordinary farm products, and a great variety of fruits and vegetables for the Cincinnati market. Vineyards thrive well within its limits, and the manufacture of wine is carried on to a considerable extent.

This county was the second settled in Ohio, and the first within the Symmes purchase. Settlers arrived at the spot now occupied by Cincinnati, and three or four log cabins were erected. Gen. Arthur St. Clair arrived here in January, 1790. The army of Wayne encamped here later, at Fort Washington. Mr. Maxwell established in 1793 the *Sentinel of the Northwestern Territory*, the first newspaper printed north of the Ohio River. In 1796, Edward Freeman became its proprietor, and changed the name to *Freeman's Journal*. January 11, 1794, two keel-boats sailed from Cincinnati to Pittsburgh, making regular trips every four weeks. In 1801, the first sea vessel built at Marietta came down the Ohio.

Cincinnati, the county seat, was incorporated January 2, 1802. It was chartered as a city in 1819. The city is beautifully laid out and delightfully situated. Its public buildings are elegant and substantial, including the court house and many literary and charitable institutions.

The Cincinnati College was founded in 1819. It stands in the center of the city. It is built in Grecian-Doric style, with pilaster fronts and facade of Dayton marble. Woodward College is also popular.

The Catholics have founded the St. Xavier's College. Lane Seminary, a theological institution, is at Walnut Hills, two miles from the center of the city. It has over 10,000 volumes in its libraries. No charge is made for tuition. Rooms are provided and furnished at \$5 per year, and board ranges from 62½ cents to 90 cents a week. The Cincinnati Law School is connected with Cincinnati College. The Mechanics' Institute was chartered in 1828, and is in all respects well supplied with apparatus. A college for teachers was established in 1831, its object being to perfect those contemplating entering that profession in their studies and system.







The Cincinnati Orphan Asylum is an elegant building, and has a library and well-organized school attached. The Catholics of the city have one male and female orphan asylum. The Commercial Hospital and Lunatic Asylum of Ohio was incorporated in 1821.

Cincinnati is a large manufacturing city, and possesses fine water-power facilities. It communicates with the world by means of its canal, river, turnpikes, and railways. North Bend is another prominent town in this county, having been the residence of Gen. William H. Harrison, and the site of his burial place. The town was of considerable importance in the early settlement of the State. About thirty yards from Harrison's tomb is the grave of Judge Symmes.

Hancock County was formed April 1, 1820. It produces wheat, oats, corn, pork and maple sugar. The surface is level and its soil is fertile. Blanchard's Fork waters the central and southern part of the county. Findlay, the county seat, was laid out by ex-Gov. Joseph Vance and Elnathan Corry, in 1821. It was relaid in 1829. William Vance settled there in the fall of 1821. At the south end of the town, are two gas wells. In the eastern part, is a mineral spring, and west of the bridge, is a chalybeate spring.

Hardin County was formed April 1, 1820, from the old Indian Territory. It produces, principally, wheat, corn and swine. A portion of the surface is level, and the remainder undulating. Fort McArthur was built on the Scioto River, but proved a weak stockade. Kenton is the county seat, situated on the Mad River.

Harrison County was formed from Jefferson and Tuscarawas January 1, 1814. The surface is hilly, abounding in coal and limestone. Its soil is clayey. It is one of the important wool-growing counties in Ohio. It produces large quantities of wheat, corn, oats and hay, besides a considerable number of horses, cattle and swine.

In April, 1799, Alexander Henderson and family settled in this county, and at the same time, Daniel Peterson and his family resided at the forks of Short Creek. The early settlers were much annoyed by Indians and wild beasts. Cadiz is the county seat, and was laid out in 1803 and 1804, by Messrs. Briggs and Beatty.

Henry County was formed from the old Indian Territory, April 1, 1820. Indian corn, oats, potatoes, and maple sugar constitute the main products. The county is well supplied with running streams, and the soil is unusually rich.

The greater portion of this county is covered by the "Black Swamp." Throughout this swamp are ridges of limestone, covered with black walnut, red elm, butternut and maple. The soil is superior for grain. Fruit thrives and all varieties of vegetables are produced in large quantities. Simon Girty, notorious for his wicked career, resided in this county. Girty led the attack on Fort Henry, in September, 1777. He demanded the surrender of the fort, and menaced its inmates with an Indian massacre, in case of refusal. The



action began, but the fort gained the victory. He led a ferocious band of Indians, and committed the most fiendish atrocities.

Napoleon, the county seat, is situated on the Maumee River.

Highland County was formed in May, 1805, from Ross, Adams and Clermont. It is a wealthy, productive county. Its wheat commands a high market price. The crops consist of wheat, corn, oats, maple sugar, wool, swine and cattle. Its first settlement began in 1801, at New Market, by Oliver Ross, Robert Keeton, George W. Barrere, Bernard Weyer and others. Simon Kenton made a trace through this county in early times. Hillsboro is the county seat, and was laid out in 1807, by David Hays, on the land of Benjamin Ellicott. It is situated on the dividing ridge, between the Miami and Scioto. The Hillsboro Academy was founded in 1827.

Hocking County was formed March 1, 1818, from Ross, Athens and Fairfield. Its principal products are corn, wheat, tobacco and maple sugar. Its surface is broken and hilly, but is level and fertile beside the streams.

The Wyandots once occupied this tract, and built a large town herein. In 1798, a few white families ventured to settle. Logan is its county seat, and is situated on the Hocking River.

Holmes County was formed from Coshocton, Tuscarawas and Wayne, January 20, 1824. It produces wheat, corn, oats, potatoes, maple sugar, swine, sheep and cattle. The southwestern portion is broken. Thomas Butler was the first settler, in 1810. Millersburg is the county seat, and was laid out in 1830.

Huron County was organized in 1815. It produces hay, wheat, corn, oats, barley, buckwheat, flaxseed, potatoes, butter, cheese, wool and swine. Norwalk is the county seat.

Jackson County was organized March, 1816. The country is rich in minerals and abounds in coal and iron ore. The exports are cattle, wool, swine, horses, lumber, millstones, tobacco and iron. Jackson, the county seat, was laid out in 1817. The old Scioto salt-works were among the first worked in Ohio by the whites. Prior to this period, the Indians came some distance to this section to make salt. When Daniel Boone was a prisoner, he spent some time at these works.

Jefferson County was proclaimed by Gov. St. Clair July 29, 1797, and was the fifth county established in Ohio. It is one of the most important manufacturing counties in the State. Its resources in coal are also extended. The surface is hilly and the soil fertile, producing wheat, corn and oats. The old "Mingo" town was on the present farms of Jeremiah Hallock and Mr. Daniel Potter. The troops of Col. Williamson rendezvoused at this point, when they set out in their cruel Moravian campaign, and also the troops of Col. Crawford, when they started on the campaign against the Sandusky Indians. Here Logan, the powerful and manly chief of the Mingo nation, once resided. He took no active part in the old French war, which closed in







1760, except that of a peacemaker. He was a stanch friend of the whites until the abominable and unprovoked murder of his father, brother and sister, which occurred in 1774, near the Yellow Creek. He then raised the battle cry and sought revenge.

However, Logan was remarkably magnanimous toward prisoners who fell into his hands. The year 1793 was the last spent in Indian warfare in Jefferson County.

Fort Steuben was erected on the present site of Steubenville, the county seat, in 1789. It was constructed of block-houses, with palisade fences, and was dismantled during Wayne's campaign. Bezaleel Wells and Hon. James Ross laid the town out in 1798. It was incorporated February 14, 1805. It is situated upon an elevated plain. In 1814, Messrs. Wells and Dickerson built a woolen manufactory, and introduced merino sheep to the county.

Knox County was formed March 1, 1808, from Fairfield. It is drained by the Vernon River. It produces wheat, corn, oats, tobacco, maple sugar, potatoes and wool. Mount Vernon was laid out in 1805. The early settlers found two wells on the Vernon River, built of hammered stone, neatly laid, and near by was a salt-lick. Their direct origin remains a mystery. Gilman Bryant, in 1807, opened the first store in Mount Vernon. The court house was built in 1810. The Indians came to Mount Vernon in large numbers for the purpose of trading in furs and cranberries. Each Saturday, the settlers worked on the streets, extracting stumps and improving the highway. The first settler north of the place was N. M. Young, who built his cabin in 1803. Mount Vernon is now the county seat, beautifully situated on Vernon River. Kenyon College is located at Gambier. It is richly endowed with 8,000 acres, and is valued at \$100,000. This institution was established under the auspices of Bishop Chase, in July, 1826, in the center of a \$4,000-acre tract belonging to Kenyon College. It was chartered as a theological seminary.

Lucas County is of comparatively recent origin. A large portion is covered by the "Black Swamp." It produces corn, wheat, potatoes and oats. This county is situated in the Maumee Valley, which was the great arena of historical events. The frightful battle of Wayne's campaign, where the Indians found the British to be traitors, was fought at Fort Meigs, in this county. Maumee City, the county seat, was laid out in 1817, as Maumee, by Maj. William Oliver and others. It is situated on the Maumee, at the head of navigation. The surface is 100 feet above the water level. This town, with Perrysburg, its neighbor, is exceedingly picturesque, and was in early times frequented by the Indians. The French had a trading station at this point, in 1680, and in 1794, the British Fort—Miami—was built. Toledo is on the left bank of the Maumee, and covers the site of a stockade fort, known as Fort Industry, erected in 1800. An Indian treaty was held here July 4, 1805, by which the Indians relinquished all rights to the "fire lands." In 1832, Capt. Samuel Allen gave an impetus to the place, and Maj. Stickney also became interested in its advancement.



Speculation in lots began in 1834. The Wabash & Erie Canal interest arose in 1836. Mr. Mason and Edward Bissel added their energies to assist the growth of the town. It was incorporated as a city in 1836. It was the center of the military operations in the "Ohio and Michigan war," known as the "boundary conflict."

The Ordinance of 1787 provided for the division of the Northwestern Territory into three or five States. The three southern were to be divided from the two northern by a line drawn east and west through the southern point of Lake Michigan, extending eastward to the Territorial line in Lake Erie. The constitution of Ohio adds a provision that if the line should not go so far north as the north cape of Maumee Bay, then the northern boundary of Ohio should be a line drawn from the southerly part of Lake Michigan to the north cape of the Maumee Bay.

The line of the ordinance was impossible, according to its instructions and the geography of the country.

When Michigan became a Territory, the people living between the "Fulton" and "Harris" lines found it more to their wishes to be attached to Michigan. They occupied disputed ground, and were thus beyond the limits of absolute law. In 1835, the subject was greatly agitated, and J. Q. Adams made a warm speech before Congress against the Ohio claim. The Legislature of Ohio discussed the matter, and an act was passed to attach the disputed section to Ohio, according to the constitutional decree. An active campaign opened between Michigan and Ohio. Gov. Lucas came out with the Ohio troops, in the spring of 1835, and Gov. Mason, of Michigan, followed the example. He marched into Toledo, robbed melon-patches and chicken-houses, crushed in the front door of Maj. Stickney's house, and carried him away prisoner of war. Embassadors were sent from Washington to negotiate matters—Richard Rush, of Pennsylvania and Col. Howard, of Maryland. At the next session of Congress, the matter was settled. Samuel Vinton argued for Ohio, in the House, and Thomas Ewing in the Senate. Michigan received an equivalent of the large peninsula between Lakes Huron, Michigan and Superior. Ohio received the disputed strip, averaging eight miles in width. Manhattan, Waterville and Providence are all flourishing towns.

Lorain County was formed from Huron, Cuyahoga and Medina, on December 26, 1822. The soil is generally fertile, and the surface level. Wheat, grass, oats, corn, rye and potatoes constitute the principal crops. Bog-iron ore is found in large quantities. A curious relic has been found in this county, bearing the date of 1533. Elyria is the county seat, and was laid out in 1817. The first settler was Mr. Heman Ely. Oberlin is situated about eight miles southwest of Elyria. The Oberlin Collegiate Institute has attained a wide celebrity.

Logan County was formed March 1, 1817. The surface is broken and hilly near the Mad River, but is generally level. The soil is fertile, producing







wheat, corn, rye, oats, clover, flax and timothy seed. The Shawnee Indians were located here, and built several villages on the Mad River. These towns were destroyed in 1786, by a body of Kentuckians, under Gen. Benjamin Logan. The whites surprised the towns. However, they returned after the work of destruction had been completed, and for many years frequented the section. On the site of Zanesville was a Wyandot village. By the treaty of September 29, 1817, the Senecas and Shawnees held a reservation around Lewistown. April 6, 1832, they vacated this right and removed west. Isaac Zane was born about the year 1753, and was, while a boy, captured and afterward adopted by the Wyandots. Attaining the age of manhood, he had no desire to return to his people. He married a Wyandot woman, who was half French. After the treaty of Greenville, he bought 1,800 acres on the site of Zanesville, where he lived until the year 1816, when he died, lamented by all his friends.

Logan County was settled about the year 1806. During the war of 1812, it was a rendezvous for friendly Indians. Bellefontaine, the county seat, was laid out March 18, 1820, on land owned by John Tulles and William Powell. Joseph Gordon built a cabin, and Anthony Ballard erected the first frame dwelling.

Gen. Simon Kenton is buried at the head of Mad River, five miles from Bellefontaine. He died April 29, 1836, aged eighty-one years and twenty-six days. This remarkable man came West, to Kentucky, in 1771. He probably encountered more thrilling escapes than any other man of his time. In 1778, he was captured and suffered extreme cruelties, and was ransomed by the British. He soon recovered his robust health, and escaped from Detroit the following spring. He settled in Urbana in 1802. He was elected Brigadier General of the militia, and in the war of 1812, joined Gen. Harrison's army. In the year 1820, he removed to Mad River. Gen. Vance and Judge Burnet secured him a pension, of \$20 per month.

Licking County was formed from Fairfield March 1, 1808. The surface is generally level, diversified by slight hills in the eastern portion. The soil is fertile, producing wheat, corn, oats and grass. Coal and iron ore of good quality add to the wealth of the county. Wool and dairy productions are also staples. Newark is the county seat, and is situated at the confluence of the three principal branches of the Licking. It was laid out by Gen. William C. Schenk, George W. Burnet and John M. Cummings, who owned this military section of 4,000 acres, in 1801. In 1802, Samuel Elliott and Samuel Parr built hewed-log houses. The picturesque "Narrows of the Licking" are in the eastern part of the county, which have elicited general praise from scenic hunters.

Lawrence County was organized March 1, 1816. There are many high and abrupt hills in this section, which abound in sand or freestone. It is rich in minerals, and the most important section of Ohio for iron manufacture.



Coal is abundant, and white clay exists in the western part suitable for pottery purposes. Agricultural productions are not extensive.

The county was settled in 1797 by the Dutch and Irish. The iron region extends through the west part of this county. Lawrence County produces a superior quality of iron, highly esteemed for castings, and is equal to Scotch pig for furnace purposes. Burlington is the county seat.

Lake County was formed from Geauga and Cuyahoga March 6, 1840. The soil is good and the surface rolling. It produces wheat, corn, oats, buckwheat, barley, hay and potatoes. Dairy products, cattle and wool are also staples. Its fruits—apples, peaches, pears, plums and grapes are highly prized. As early as 1799, a settlement was formed at Mentor. Painesville, the county seat, is situated on Grand River, in a beautiful valley. The Painesville Academy is a classical institution for the education of both sexes. Near the town is the Geauga furnace. Painesville was laid out by Henry Champion in 1805. At Fairport, the first warehouse in this section, and probably the first on the lake, was built by Abraham Skinner in 1803. This town has a fine harbor, and has a light-house and beacon. Kirtland, southwest from Painesville, was, in 1834, the headquarters of the Mormons. At that time, they numbered about three thousand. The old Mormon temple is of rough stone, plastered over, colored blue, and marked to imitate regular courses of masonry. As is well known, the Mormons derive their name from the book of Mormon, said to have been translated from gold plates found in a hill in Palmyra, N. Y.

Madison County was organized in March, 1810. The surface is generally level. It produces grass, corn, oats and cattle—the latter forming a chief staple, while wool and pork add to the general wealth.

Jonathan Alder was much interested in the settlement of the county. He, like some other whites, had lived with the Indians many years, and had formed a lasting affection for them, and had married a squaw, with whom he became dissatisfied, which caused him to desire finding his own family. He succeeded in this through the assistance of John Moore. He left his wife and joined his people.

This county was first settled in 1795. Benjamin Springer made a clearing and built a cabin. He settled near Alder, and taught him the English language. Mr. Joshua Ewing brought four sheep to this place, and the Indians exhibited great astonishment over these strange animals. When the hostilities of 1812 began, the British offered inducements to the Indians to join them, and they consulted Alder regarding the best policy to adopt. He advised them to preserve neutrality until a later period, which they did, and eventually became firm friends of the Americans.

London is the county seat, and was laid out in 1810–11, by Patrick McLene.

Marion County was organized March 1, 1824. The soil is fertile, and produces extensive farm crops. The Delaware Indians once held a reservation here, and conceded their claims in 1829, August 3, and removed west of the







Mississippi. Marion, the county seat, was laid out in 1821, by Eber Baker and Alexander Holmes. Gen. Harrison marched through this section during his campaign.

Mahoning County was formed in 1846, from Trumbull and Columbiana. The surface is rolling and the soil generally fertile. The finer qualities of wood are produced here. Bituminous coal and iron are found in large quantities. Col. James Hillman came to the Western Reserve in 1786. The settlement of the county went forward. Canfield is the county seat.

Medina County was formed from the Western Reserve February 12, 1812. The surface is rolling and the soil is fertile, producing fine agricultural products. The first trail made through the county was made by George Poe, Joseph H. Larwell and Roswell M. Mason. The first settlement was made by Joseph Harris in 1811. He was soon joined by the Burr brothers. Medina is the county seat.

Meigs County was formed from Gallia and Athens April 1, 1819. The general character of the soil is clayey, producing large quantities of wheat, oats, corn, hay and potatoes. Vast quantities of salt are made and exported. Pomeroy, the county seat, is situated under a lofty hill, surrounded by picturesque scenery. Mr. Nathaniel Clark was the first settler of the county. He arrived in 1816. The first coal mine opened in Pomeroy was in 1819, by David Bradshaw.

Mercer County was formed from the Indian Territory in 1820. The surface is generally flat, and while covered with forests, inclined to be wet; but, being cleared, it is very fertile, and adapted to producing farm crops. St. Clair's Battle was fought on the boundary line between this and Darke County. The Hon. Lewis Cass and Duncan McArthur made a treaty at St. Mary's with the Wyandots, Shawnees and Ottawas, in 1818. The odious Simon Girty lived at one time at St. Mary's. Wayne built St. Mary's Fort, on the west bank of the river. John Whistler was the last commander of the fort. The largest artificial lake in the world, so it is asserted, is formed by the reservoir supplying the St. Mary's feeder of the Miami Extension Canal. It is about nine miles long, and from two to four broad. Celina is the county seat.

Miami County was formed January 16, 1807, from Montgomery. It abounds in excellent limestone, and possesses remarkable water-power facilities. Its agricultural products rank highly in quality and quantity. John Knoop came into this section about the year 1797, and its first settlement began about this time. Troy, the county seat, is situated upon the Great Miami. Piqua is another lovely town. The Miami River affords delightful scenery at this point.

Monroe County was formed January 29, 1813, from Belmont, Washington, and Guernsey. A portion of its surface is abrupt and hilly. Large quantities of tobacco are raised, and much pork is exported. Wheat and corn grow well in the western portion. Iron ore and coal abound. The valleys of the streams are very narrow, bounded by rough hills. In some places are natural rock grottoes. The first settlement was made in 1799, near the mouth of the Sunfish.



At this time, wolves were numerous, and caused much alarm. Volney entered this county, but was not prepossessed in its favor. One township is settled by the Swiss, who are educated and refined. Woodsfield is the county seat.

Montgomery County was formed from Ross and Hamilton May 1, 1803. The soil is fertile, and its agricultural products are most excellent. Quarries of grayish-white limestone are found east of the Miami.

Dayton is the county seat, situated on the Great Miami, at the mouth of Mad River. It was settled in 1788, but the Indian wars prevented a rapid growth. After Wayne's treaty, in 1795, a new company was formed. It advanced rapidly between the years 1812 and 1820. The beginning of the Miami Canal renewed its prosperity, in 1827. The first coal-boat from Cincinnati arrived at Dayton on the 25th of January, 1829. The first one arrived from Lake Erie in June, 1845. Col. Robert Patterson came to Dayton in 1804. At one time, he owned Lexington, Ky., and about one third of Cincinnati.

Morgan County was organized in 1818, March 1. The surface is hilly and the soil strong and fertile, producing wheat, corn, oats and tobacco. Pork is a prolific product, and considerable salt is made. The first settlement was made in 1790, on the Muskingum. McConnelsville is the county seat. Mr. Ayres made the first attempt to produce salt, in 1817. This has developed into a large industry.

Morrow County was organized in 1848. It is drained by the Vernon River, which rises in it, by the East Branch of the Olontangy or Whetstone River, and by Walnut Creek. The surface is undulating, the soil fertile. The staple products are corn, wheat, oats, hay, wool and butter. The sugar maple abounds in the forests, and sandstone or freestone in the quarries. Mount Gilead, the county seat, is situated on the East Branch of the Olontangy River.

Muskingum County was formed from Washington and Fairfield. The surface is rolling or hilly. It produces wheat, corn, oats, potatoes, tobacco, wool and pork. Large quantities of bituminous coal are found. Pipe clay, buhrstone or cellular quartz are also in some portions of the State. Salt is made in large quantities—the fine being obtained from a stratum of whitish sandstone. The Wyandots, Delawares, Senecas and Shawanoese Indians once inhabited this section. An Indian town occupied the site of Duncan's Falls. A large Shawanoese town was located near Dresden.

Zanesville is the county seat, situated opposite the mouth of the Licking. It was laid out in 1799, by Mr. Zane and Mr. McIntire. This is one of the principal towns in the State, and is surrounded by charming scenery.

Noble County, organized in 1851, is drained by Seneca, Duck and Wills Creeks. The surface is undulating, and a large part of it is covered with forests. The soil is fertile. Its staples are corn, tobacco, wheat, hay, oats and wool. Among its mineral resources are limestone, coal and petroleum. Near Caldwell, the county seat, are found iron ore, coal and salt.







Ottawa County was formed from Erie, Sandusky and Lucas, March 6, 1840, It is mostly within the Black Swamp, and considerable of its land is prairie and marsh. It was very thinly settled before 1830. Extensive plaster beds exist on the peninsula, which extends into Lake Erie. It has also large limestone quarries, which are extensively worked. The very first trial at arms upon the soil of Ohio, during the war of 1812, occurred upon this peninsula. Port Clinton, the county seat, was laid out in 1827.

Perry County was formed from Washington, Fairfield and Muskingum, March 1, 1817. Fine tobacco is raised in large quantities. Wheat, corn, oats, hay, cattle, pork and wool add to the general wealth. This county was first settled in 1802. In 1807, John Finck erected the first cabin near the site of Somerset, formerly the county seat. New Livingston is now the county seat.

Paulding County was formed from old Indian territory August 1, 1820. It produces corn, wheat and oats. Paulding is the county seat.

Pickaway County was formed from Fairfield, Ross and Franklin, January 12, 1810. The county has woodland, barren, plain and prairie. The barrens were covered by shrub oaks, and when cleared are adapted to the raising of corn and oats. The Pickaway plains are three and a half miles west of Circleville, and this tract is said to contain the richest land in Ohio. Here, in the olden times, burned the great council fires of the red man. Here the allied tribes met Gen. Lewis, and fought the battle of Mount Pleasant. Dunmore's campaign was terminated on these plains. It was at the Chillicothe towns, after Dunmore's treaty, that Logan delivered his famous speech. Circleville, the county seat, is situated on the Scioto River and the Ohio Canal. It was laid out in 1810, by Daniel Dresbach. It is situated on the site of ancient fortifications.

Portage County was formed June 7, 1807, from Trumbull. It is a wealthy, thriving section. Over a thousand tons of cheese are annually produced. It also produces wheat, corn, oats, barley, buckwheat, rye, butter and wool. Ravenna is the county seat, and was originally settled by the Hon. Benjamin Tappen in June, 1799. In 1806, an unpleasant difficulty arose between the settlers and a camp of Indians in Deerfield, caused by a horse trade between a white man and an Indian. David Daniels settled on the site of Palmyra in 1799.

Pike County was organized in 1815. The surface is generally hilly, which abound with freestone, which is exported in large quantities for building purposes. Rich bottom lands extend along the Scioto and its tributaries. John Noland and the three Chenoweth brothers settled on the Pee Pee prairie about 1796. Piketown, the former county seat, was laid out about 1814. Waverly, the present county seat, is situated on the Scioto River.

Preble County was formed March 1, 1808, from Montgomery and Butler. The soil is varied. Excellent water-power facilities are furnished.

Eaton, the county seat, was laid out in 1806, by William Bruce, who owned the land. An overflowing well of strong sulphur water is near the town, while directly beside it is a limestone quarry. Holderman's quarry is about two



miles distant, from which is obtained a beautifully clouded gray stone. Fort St. Clair was built near Eaton, in the winter of 1791-92. Gen. Harrison was an Ensign at the time, and commanded a guard every other night for three weeks, during the building. The severe battle of November 6, 1792, was fought under its very guns. Little Turtle, a distinguished chief of the Miamis, roamed over this county for a time. He was witty, brave and earnest, and, although engaged in several severe contests with the whites, he was inclined toward peace. But when his warriors cried for war he led them bravely.

Putnam County was formed April 1, 1820, from old Indian territory. The soil is fertile, its principal productions being wheat, corn, potatoes and oats. Large quantities of pork are exported. Kalida, once the county seat, was laid out in 1834. Ottawa is the county seat.

Ross County was formed August 20, 1798, by the proclamation of Gov. St. Clair, and was the sixth county formed in the Northwestern Territory. The Scioto River and Paint Creek run through it, bordered with fertile lands. Much water-power is obtained from the many streams watering it. The main crops are wheat, corn and oats. It exports cattle and hogs.

The Rev. Robert W. Finley, in 1794, addressed a letter of inquiry to Col. Nathaniel Massie, as many of his associates had designed settling in the new State. This resulted in packing their several effects and setting out. A trivial Indian encounter was the only interruption they met with on their way. After Wayne's treaty, Col. Massie and many of these early explorers met again and formed a settlement—in 1796—at the mouth of Paint Creek. In August of this year, Chillicothe was laid out by Col. Massie, in a dense forest. He donated lots to the early settlers. A ferry was established over the Scioto, and the opening of Zane's trace assisted the progress of settlement.

Chillicothe, the county seat, is situated on the Scioto. Its site is thirty feet above the river. In 1800, it was the seat of the Northwestern Territorial Government. It was incorporated as a city in January, 1802. During the war of 1812, the city was a rendezvous for the United States troops. A large number of British were at one time guarded here. Adena is a beautiful place, and the seat of Gov. Worthington's mansion, which was built in 1806. Near this is Fruit Hill, the residence of the late Gen. McArthur, and latterly the home of his son-in-law, the Hon. William Allen. Eleven miles from Chillicothe, on the road to Portsmouth, is the home of the hermit of the Scioto.

Richland was organized March 1, 1813. It produces wheat, corn, oats, hay, potatoes, rye, hemp and barley. It was settled about 1809, on branches of the Mohican. Two block-houses were built in 1812. Mansfield, the county seat, is charmingly situated, and was laid out in 1808, by Jacob Newman, James Hedges and Joseph H. Larwell. The county was at that period a vast wilderness, destitute of roads. From this year, the settlement progressed rapidly.

Sandusky County was formed April 1, 1820, from the old Indian Territory. The soil is fertile, and country generally level. It mainly produces corn, wheat,







oats, potatoes and pork. The Indians were especially delighted with this tract. Near Lower Sandusky lived a band of Wyandots, called the Neutral Nation. These two cities never failed to render refuge to any who sought their protection. They preserved their peacemaking attributes through the Iroquois conflicts. Fremont, formerly called Lower Sandusky, the county seat, is situated at the head of navigation, on the Sandusky, on the site of the old reservation grant to the Indians, at the Greenville treaty council. Fort Stephenson was erected in August, 1813, and was gallantly defended by Col. Croghan.

Summit County was formed March 3, 1840, from Medina, Portage and Stark. The soil is fertile and produces excellent fruit, besides large crops of corn, wheat, hay, oats and potatoes. Cheese and butter may be added as products.

The first settlement made in the county was at Hudson, in 1800. The old Indian portage-path, extending through this county, between the Cuyahoga, and Tuscarawas Branch of the Muskingum. This was a part of the ancient boundary between the Six Nations and the Western Indians. Akron, the county seat, is situated on the portage summit. It was laid out in 1825. In 1811, Paul Williams and Amos and Minor Spicer settled in this vicinity. Middlebury was laid out in 1818, by Norton & Hart.

Stark County was formed February 13, 1808. It is a rich agricultural county. It has large quantities of mineral coal, iron ore, flocks of the finest sheep and great water-power. Limestone and extensive beds of lime-marl exist. The manufacture of silk has been extensively carried on. Frederick Post, the first Moravian missionary in Ohio, settled here in 1761.

Canton is the county seat, situated in the forks of the Nimishillen, a tributary of the Muskingum. It was laid out in 1806, by Bezaleel Wells, who owned the land. Massillon was laid out in March, 1826, by John Duncan.

Shelby County was formed in 1819, from Miami. The southern portion is undulating, arising in some places to hills. Through the north, it is a flat table-land. It produces wheat, corn, oats and grass. The first point of English settlement in Ohio was at the mouth of Laramie's Creek, in this county, as early as 1752. Fort Laramie was built in 1794, by Wayne. The first white family that settled in this county was that of James Thatcher, in 1804. Sidney, the county seat, was laid out in 1819, on the farm of Charles Starrett.

Seneca County was formed April 1, 1820, from the old Indian territory. Its principal products are corn, wheat, grass, oats, potatoes and pork.

Fort Seneca was built during the war of 1812. The Senecas owned 40,000 acres of land on the Sandusky River, mostly in Seneca County. Thirty thousand acres of this land was granted to them in 1817, at the treaty held at the foot of the Maumee Rapids. The remaining 10,000 was granted the following year. These Indians ceded this tract, however, to the Government in 1831. It was asserted by an old chief, that this band was the remnant



of Logan's tribe. Tiffin, the county seat, was laid out by Josiah Hedges in the year 1821.

Scioto County was formed May 1, 1803. It is a good agricultural section, besides producing iron ore, coal and freestone. It is said that a French fort stood at the mouth of the old Scioto, as early as 1740. In 1785, four families settled where Portsmouth now stands. Thomas McDonald built the first cabin in the county. The "French grant" was located in this section—a tract comprising 24,000 acres. The grant was made in March, 1795. Portsmouth, the county seat, is located upon the Ohio.

Trumbull County was formed in 1800. The original Connecticut Western Reserve was within its limits. The county is well cultivated and very wealthy. Coal is found in its northern portion. We have, in our previous outline, given a history of this section, and it is not, therefore, necessary to repeat its details. Warren, the county seat, is situated on the Mahoning River. It was laid out by Ephraim Quinby in 1801. Mr. Quinby owned the soil. His cabin was built here in 1799. In August, 1800, while Mr. McMahon was away from home, a party of drunken Indians called at the house, abused the family, struck a child a severe blow with a tomahawk and threatened to kill the family. Mrs. McMahon could not send tidings which could reach her husband before noon the following day. The following Sunday morning, fourteen men and two boys armed themselves and went to the Indian camp to settle the difficulty. Quinby advanced alone, leaving the remainder in concealment, as he was better acquainted with these people, to make inquiries and ascertain their intentions. He did not return at once, and the party set out, marched into camp, and found Quinby arguing with Capt. George, the chief. Capt. George snatched his tomahawk and declared war, rushing forward to kill McMahon. But a bullet from the frontiersman's gun killed him instantly, while Storey shot "Spotted John" at the same time. The Indians then fled. They joined the council at Sandusky. Quinby garrisoned his house. Fourteen days thereafter, the Indians returned with overtures of peace, which were, that McMahon and Storey be taken to Sandusky, tried by Indian laws, and if found guilty, punished by them. This could not be done. McMahon was tried by Gen. St. Clair, and the matter was settled. The first missionary on the Reserve was the Rev. Joseph Badger.

Tuscarawas County was formed February 15, 1808, from Muskingum. It is well cultivated with abundant supplies of coal and iron.

The first white settlers were Moravian missionaries, their first visits dating back to 1761. The first permanent settlement was made in 1803. Miss Mary Heckewelder, the daughter of a missionary, was born in this county April 16, 1781. Fort Laurens was built during the Revolution. It was the scene of a fearful carnage. It was established in the fall of 1778, and placed under the command of Gen. McIntosh. New Philadelphia is the county seat, situated on the Tuscarawas. It was laid out in 1804 by John Knisely. A German







colony settled in this county in 1817, driven from their native land by religious detestation they could not espouse. They called themselves Separatists. They are a simple-minded people, strictly moral and honest.

Union County was formed from Franklin, Delaware, Logan and Madison in 1820. It produces corn, grass, wheat, oats, potatoes, butter and cheese. Extensive limestone quarries are also valuable. The Ewing brothers made the first white settlement in 1798. Col. James Curry, a member of the State Legislature, was the chief instigator in the progress of this section. He located within its limits and remained until his death, which occurred in 1834. Marysville is the county seat.

Van Wert County was formed from the old Indian territory April 1, 1820. A great deal of timber is within the limits of this county, but the soil is so tenacious that water will not sink through it, and crops are poor during wet seasons. The main product is corn. Van Wert, the county seat, was founded by James W. Riley in 1837. An Indian town had formerly occupied its site. Capt. Riley was the first white man who settled in the county, arriving in 1821. He founded Willshire in 1822.

Vinton County was organized in 1850. It is drained by Raccoon and Salt Creeks. The surface is undulating or hilly, and is extensively covered with forests in which the oak, buckeye and sugar maple are found. Corn, hay, butter and wool are staple products. Bituminous coal and iron ore are found. McArthur is the county seat.

Washington County was formed by proclamation of Gov. St. Clair July 27, 1788, and was the first county founded within the limits of Ohio. The surface is broken with extensive tracts of level, fertile land. It was the first county settled in the State under the auspices of the Ohio Company. A detachment of United States troops, under command of Maj. John Doughty, built Fort Harmar in 1785, and it was the first military post established in Ohio by Americans, with the exception of Fort Laurens, which was erected in 1778. It was occupied by United States troops until 1790, when they were ordered to Connecticut. A company under Capt. Haskell remained. In 1785, the Directors of the Ohio Company began practical operations, and settlement went forward rapidly. Campus Martius, a stockade fort, was completed in 1791. This formed a sturdy stronghold during the war. During the Indian war there was much suffering in the county. Many settlers were killed and captured.

Marietta is the county seat, and the oldest town in Ohio. Marietta College was chartered in 1835. Herman Blannerhassett, whose unfortunate association with Aaron Burr proved fatal to himself, was a resident of Marietta in 1796. About the year 1798, he began to beautify and improve his island.

Warren County was formed May 1, 1803, from Hamilton. The soil is very fertile, and considerable water-power is furnished by its streams. Mr. Bedell made the first settlement in 1795. Lebanon is the county seat. Henry



Taylor settled in this vicinity in 1796. Union Village is a settlement of Shakers. They came here about 1805.

Wayne County was proclaimed by Gov. St. Clair August 15, 1796, and was the third county in the Northwest Territory. The settlement of this section has already been briefly delineated. Wooster is the county seat. It was laid out during the fall of 1808, by John Beaver, William Henry and Joseph H. Larwell, owners of the land. Its site is 337 feet above Lake Erie. The first mill was built by Joseph Stibbs in 1809, on Apple Creek. In 1812, a block-house was erected in Wooster.

Wood County was formed from the old Indian territory in 1820. The soil is rich, and large crops are produced. The county is situated within the Maumee Valley. It was the arena of brilliant military exploits during early times.

Bowling Green is the county seat.

Williams County was formed April 1, 1820, from the old Indian territory. Bryan is the county seat. It was laid out in 1840.

Wyandot County was formed February 3, 1845, from Marion, Harden, Hancock and Crawford. The surface is level and the soil is fertile. The Wyandot Indians frequented this section. It was the scene of Crawford's defeat, in June, 1782, and his fearful death. The treaty of 1817, Hon. Lewis Cass and Hon. Duncan McArthur, United States Commissioners, granted to the Indians a reservation ten miles square, the central point being Fort Ferree. This reservation was ceded to the United States in 1829. The Wyandots ceded theirs March 17, 1842. The United States Commissioner was Col. John Johnson, who thus made the last Indian treaty in Ohio. Every foot of this State was fairly purchased by treaties. The Wyandots were exceedingly brave, and several of their chiefs were men of exalted moral principles.

Upper Sandusky is the county seat, and was laid out in 1843. Gen. Harrison had built Ferree on this spot during the war of 1812. Gov. Meigs, in 1813, encamped near the river, with several thousand of the Ohio militia.

The Indian town of Upper Sandusky was originally Crane Town. The Indians transferred their town, after the death of Tarke, to Upper Sandusky.

#### GOVERNORS OF OHIO.

The Territorial Governors we have already mentioned in the course of our brief review of the prominent events of the State of Ohio. After the Territory was admitted as a State, in 1802, Edward Tiffin was elected to that position, and again received the same honor, in 1804 and 1806. In 1807, circumstances led him to resign, and Thomas Kirker, Speaker of the House, acted as Governor, until the close of the term.

Edward Tiffin was born in Carlisle, England, coming to this country in 1784, at the age of eighteen. He entered the University of Pennsylvania, and applied himself to the study of medicine, graduating and beginning his practice at the age of twenty, in the State of Virginia. In 1789, he married Mary,







daughter of Col. Worthington, and sister of Thomas Worthington, who subsequently became Governor of Ohio. In his profession, Gov. Tiffin was highly esteemed, and his public labors were carried forward with a zealous earnestness which marked his career as one of usefulness. He settled in Chillicothe, Ohio, in 1796, where he died, in 1829.

Samuel Huntington, the recipient of the honor of second Governor, was inaugurated in 1808. He was an American by birth, Norwich, Conn., being his native place. He was a diligent student in Yale College, graduating in 1785. He removed to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1801. He attained a reputation for integrity, ability and rare discretion. As a scholar, he was eminently superior. He resided in Cleveland at the time of his death, in 1817.

Return Jonathan Meigs followed Gov. Huntington. He was born in Middletown, Conn., in 1765. He was also a student in Yale College, graduating in 1785, with the highest honors. He immediately entered the study of law, and was admitted to practice in his twenty-third year. He married Miss Sophia Wright, and settled in Marietta, Ohio, in 1788. He took his seat as Governor in 1810, and was re-elected in 1812. In 1813, President Madison appointed him to the position of Postmaster General, which occasioned his resignation as Governor. Othniel Looker, Speaker of the House, acted as Governor during the remainder of the term. Mr. Meigs died in 1825, leaving as a memento of his usefulness, a revered memory.

Thomas Worthington, the fourth Governor, was born in Jefferson County, Va., in 1769. He gained an education in William and Mary's College. In 1788, he located at Chillicothe, and was the first Senator from the new State. He was also the first man to erect the first saw-mill in Ohio. He served two terms as Senator, from 1803 to 1815, resigning in 1814, to take his position as Governor. In 1816, he was re-elected. He was exceedingly active in paving the way for the future prosperity of Ohio. His measures were famous for practical worth and honesty. Chief Justice Chase designated him as "a gentleman of distinguished ability and great influence." He died in 1827.

Ethan Allen Brown followed Mr. Worthington. His birthplace was on the shore of Long Island Sound, in Fairfield County, Conn., July 4, 1766. His education was derived under the most judicious instruction of a private tutor. In classics, he became proficient. Directly he had reached the required standard in general education, he began the study of law, at home. After becoming conversant with preliminary requirements, he entered the law office of Alexander Hamilton, who at that time was a national pride, as a scholar, lawyer and statesman. Opportunities coming in his way, which promised a fortune, he abandoned the law, and achieved success and a fortune. He then decided to return to his study, and was admitted to practice in 1802. Thereafter, he was seized with an exploring enthusiasm, and with his cousin as a companion, set out upon a horseback tour, following the Indian trails from east to west, through Pennsylvania, until they reached Brownsville, on the Monongahela River. Here



they purchased two flatboats, and fully stocking them with provisions and obtaining efficient crews, started for New Orleans. Reaching that city, they found they could not dispose of their cargoes to any advantage, and shipped the flour to Liverpool, England, taking passage in the same vessel. They succeeded in obtaining good prices for their stock, and set sail for America, arriving in Baltimore nine months after first leaving "home," on this adventure. Mr. Brown's father decided to secure a large and valuable tract of Western land, as a permanent home, and authorized his son to select and purchase the same for him. He found what he desired, near Rising Sun, Ind. After this, he settled in Cincinnati, and engaged in the practice of law, speedily achieving prominence and distinction. Financially, he was most fortunate. In 1810, he was elected Judge of the Supreme Court, which position he filled with honor, until he was chosen Governor, in 1818. He was re-elected in 1820. In 1821, he received the honor of Senator, and served one term, with the highest distinction, gaining emolument for himself and the State he represented. In 1830, he was appointed Minister to Brazil. He remained there four years, and returning, was appointed Commissioner of Public Lands, by President Jackson, holding this position two years. At this time, he decided to retire from public life. Since he never married, he was much with his relatives, at Rising Sun, Ind., during the latter part of his life. His death was sudden and unexpected, occurring in February, 1852, while attending a Democratic Convention, at Indianapolis, Ind. He was interred near his father, at Rising Sun.

Jeremiah Morrow, the sixth Governor of Ohio, was born at Gettysburg, Penn., in October, 1771. His people were of the "Scotch-Irish" class, and his early life was one of manual labor upon his father's farm. During the winter, he had the privilege of a private school. With a view of establishing himself and securing a competency, he bade the old home farewell, in 1795, and set out for the "Far West." A flatboat carried him to a little cluster of cabins, known by the name of Columbia, six miles from Fort Washington—Cincinnati. He devoted himself to whatever came in his way, that seemed best and most worthy—teaching school, surveying and working on farms between times. Having accumulated a small capital, he ascended the Little Miami, as far as Warren County, and there purchased an extensive farm, and erected an excellent log house. In the spring of 1799, he married Miss Mary Packtrell, of Columbia. The young couple set out upon pioneer farming. Gaining popularity as well as a desirable property, he was deputed to the Territorial Legislature, which met at Chillicothe, at which time measures were inaugurated to call a Constitutional Convention, during the following year, to organize the State of Ohio. Mr. Morrow was one of the Delegates to this convention, and steadfastly worked in the interests of those who sent him, until its close in 1802. The following year, he was elected to the Senate of Ohio, and in June of the same year, he was appointed the first Representative to the United States Congress from the new State.







Ohio was then entitled to but one Representative in Congress, and could not add to that number for ten years thereafter. During these years, Mr. Morrow represented the State. In 1813, he was sent to the United States Senate, and in 1822, was elected Governor of Ohio, almost unanimously, being re-elected in 1824. It was during his administration that work was begun on the Ohio Canal. Mr. Morrow received the national guest, La Fayette, with an earnest and touching emotion, which affected the emotions of the generous Frenchman more profoundly than any of the elaborate receptions which paved his way through America. On the 4th of July, 1839, Gov. Morrow was appointed to lay the corner stone of the new State capitol, at Columbus, and to deliver the address on this occasion. Again, in 1840, he was in the House of Representatives, filling the vacancy caused by the resignation of Hon. Thomas Corwin. He was elected for the following term also. He died at his own homestead, in Warren County, March 22, 1853.

Allen Trimble was a native of Augusta County, Va. The date of his birth was November 24, 1783. His ancestors were of Scotch-Irish origin, and were among the early settlers of Virginia. His father moved to Ohio in 1804, purchasing a tract of land in Highland County. His cabin was remarkably spacious, and elicited the admiration of his neighbors. He cleared six acres of land for an orchard, and brought the trees on horseback, from Kentucky. Before this new home was completed, Allen, then a young man of twenty, took possession. This was in the year 1805. Four years thereafter, he occupied the position of Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas and Recorder of Highland County. He was serving in the latter capacity at the breaking out of the war of 1812. Naturally enthusiastic and patriotic, he engaged a competent person to perform his civil duties, while he went into active service as Colonel of a regiment he had summoned and enlisted. He was always eager to be in the front, and led his men with such valor that they were termed soldiers who did not know the art of flinching. His commanding General lavished praises upon him. In 1816, he was in the State Senate, representing Highland County. He occupied the same position for four terms, two years each. In 1818, he was Speaker of the Senate, over Gen. Robert Lucas. He remained in this office until elected to the United States Senate, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of his brother, Col. William A. Trimble. In October, 1826, he was elected the seventh Governor of Ohio, by an astonishing majority. The united vote of his three competitors was but one-sixth of the vote polled. Gov. Trimble was an earnest Henry Clay Whig. In 1828, he was re-elected, although Jackson carried the State the following November. Gov. Trimble was married in 1806, to Miss Margaret McDowell. Three years thereafter, she died, leaving two children. He was united in marriage to Miss Rachel Woodrow, and they lived together sixty years, when he died, at home, in Hillsboro, Highland County, February 3, 1870. His wife survived him but a few months.



Duncan McArthur, the eighth Governor of Ohio, was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., in 1772. While yet a child, his parents removed to the western part of Pennsylvania, where they entered upon the hard life of pioneers. While there, young Duncan had the meager advantages of a backwoods school. His life was a general routine until his eighteenth year, when he enlisted under Gen. Harmer for the Indian campaign. His conduct and bravery won worthy laurels, and upon the death of the commander of his company, he was elected to that position, although the youngest man in the company. When his days of service had expired, he found employment at salt-making in Maysville, Ky., until he was engaged as chain-bearer in Gen. Massie's survey of the Scioto Valley. At this time, Indian atrocities alarmed the settlers occasionally, and his reputation for bravery caused him to be appointed one of the three patrols of the Kentucky side of the Ohio, to give the alarm to scattered cabins in case of danger. This was during the summer of 1793. Gen. Massie again secured his services, this time as assistant surveyor. He was thus engaged for several years, during which time he assisted in platting Chillicothe. He purchased a large tract of land just north of town, and under his vigorous and practical management, it became one of the finest estates of Ohio, which reputation it sustains at the present time. He amassed wealth rapidly, his investments always being judicious. In 1805, he was elected to the State Legislature. He was a Colonel of an Ohio regiment, and accompanied Gen. Hull to Detroit in 1813. At Hull's surrender he was a prisoner, but released on parole. He returned to Ohio in a state of indignation over his commander's stupidity. Soon thereafter he was sent to Congress on the Democratic ticket. Soon thereafter he was released from parole by exchange, and, greatly rejoiced, he resigned his seat, entered the army as a Brigadier General under Gen. Harrison, and the following year succeeded him as commander of the Northwestern forces. At the termination of the war, he was immediately returned to the State Legislature. He occupied State offices until 1822, when he was again sent to Congress. Serving one term, he declined re-election. In 1830, he was elected Governor of Ohio. When his term expired, he decided to enjoy life as a citizen on his farm, "Fruit Hill," and lived there in contentment until 1840, when he died.

Robert Lucas was another Virginian, having been born in 1781, in Jefferson County of that State. While a boy, his father liberated his slaves, moving to Chillicothe as one of the early settlers. He procured a proficient tutor for his children. Robert became an expert in mathematics and surveying. Before he reached his majority, he was employed as surveyor, earning liberal compensation. At the age of twenty-three, he was appointed Surveyor of Scioto County. At twenty-five, he was Justice of the Peace for Union Township, Scioto County. He married Miss Elizabeth Brown in 1810, who died two years thereafter, leaving a young daughter. In 1816, he married Miss Sumner. The same year he was elected a member of the Ohio Legislature. For







nineteen consecutive years he served in the House or Senate. In 1820 and 1828, he was chosen one of the Presidential electors of Ohio. In 1832, he was Chairman of the National Convention at Baltimore, which nominated Gen. Jackson as President of the United States. In 1832, he became Governor of Ohio, and was re-elected in 1834. He declined a third nomination, and was appointed by President Van Buren Territorial Governor of Iowa and Superintendent of Indian Affairs. On the 16th of August, 1838, he reached Burlington, the seat of government. He remained in Iowa until his death, in 1853.

Joseph Vance, the tenth Governor of Ohio, was born in Washington County, Penn., March 21, 1781. He was of Scotch-Irish descent, and his father emigrated to the new Territory when Joseph was two years of age. He located on the southern bank of the Ohio, building a solid block house. This formed a stronghold for his neighbors in case of danger. In 1801, this pioneer decided to remove north of the Ohio River, and eventually settled in Urbana. Joseph had the primitive advantages of the common schools, and became proficient in handling those useful implements—the plow, ax and rifle. The first money he earned he invested in a yoke of oxen. He obtained several barrels of salt, and set out on a speculative tour through the settlements. He traveled through a wilderness, over swamps, and surmounted serious difficulties. At night he built a huge fire to terrify the wolves and panthers, and laid down to sleep beside his oxen, frequently being obliged to stand guard to protect them from these ferocious creatures. Occasionally he found a stream so swollen that necessarily he waited hours and even days in the tangled forest, before he could cross. He often suffered from hunger, yet he sturdily persevered and sold his salt, though a lad of only fifteen years. When he attained his majority, he married Miss Mary Lemen, of Urbana. At twenty-three, he was elected Captain of a rifle company, and frequently led his men to the front to fight the Indians prior to the war of 1812. During that year, he and his brother piloted Hull's army through the dense forests to Fort Meigs. In 1817, with Samuel McCullough and Henry Van Meter, he made a contract to supply the Northwestern army with provisions. They drove their cattle and hogs many miles, dead weight being transported on sleds and in wagons. He engaged in mercantile business at Urbana and Fort Meigs—now Perrysburg.

While thus employed, he was elected to the Legislature, and there remained four years. He then purchased a large tract of land on Blanchard's Fork, and laid out the town of Findlay. He was sent to Congress in 1821, and was a member of that body for fifteen years. In 1836, he was chosen Governor of Ohio. Again he was sent to Congress in 1842. While attending the Constitutional Convention in 1850, he was stricken with paralysis, and suffered extremely until 1852, when he died at his home in Urbana.

Wilson Shannon was a native of Belmont County, Ohio. He was born during 1803. At the age of fifteen, he was sent to the university at Athens,



where he remained a year, and then changed to the Transylvania University, at Lexington, Ky. He continued his studies two years, then returning home and entering upon reading law. He completed his course at St. Clairsville, Belmont County, and was admitted to practice. He was engaged in the courts of the county for eight years. In 1832, the Democrats nominated him to Congress, but he was not elected. He received the position of Prosecuting Attorney in 1834, in which position his abilities were so marked and brilliant that he was elected Governor by a majority of 3,600. He was re-nominated in 1840, but Tom Corwin won the ticket. Two years thereafter, he was again nominated and elected. In 1843, he was appointed Minister to Mexico, by President Tyler, and resigned the office of Governor. When Texas was admitted as a State, Mexico renounced all diplomatic relations with the United States. Mr. Shannon returned home, and resumed the practice of law. He was sent to Congress in 1852. President Pierce conferred upon him the position of Territorial Governor of Kansas, which duty he did not perform satisfactorily, and was superseded after fourteen months of service. He settled in Lecompton, Kan., and there practiced law until his death, which occurred in 1877.

Thomas Corwin, the twelfth Governor of Ohio, was born in Bourbon County, Ky., July 29, 1794. His father settled at Lebanon in 1798. The country was crude, and advantages meager. When Thomas was seventeen years of age, the war of 1812 was inaugurated, and this young man was engaged to drive a wagon through the wilderness, loaded with provisions, to Gen. Harrison's headquarters. In 1816, he began the study of law, and achieved knowledge so rapidly that in 1817 he passed examination and was admitted to practice. He was elected Prosecuting Attorney of his county, in 1818, which position he held until 1830. He was elected to the Legislature of Ohio in 1822. Again, in 1829, he was a member of the same body. He was sent to Congress in 1830, and continued to be re-elected for the space of ten years. He became Governor of Ohio in 1840. In 1845, he was elected to the United States Senate, where he remained until called to the cabinet of Mr. Fillmore, as Secretary of the Treasury. He was again sent to Congress in 1858, and re-elected in 1860. He was appointed Minister to Mexico, by President Lincoln. After his return, he practiced law in Washington, D. C., where he died in 1866.

Mordecai Bartley was born in 1783, in Fayette County, Penn. There he remained, on his father's farm, until he was twenty-one years of age. He married Miss Wells in 1804, and removed to Jefferson County, Ohio, where he purchased a farm, near Cross Creek. At the opening of the war of 1812, he enlisted in a company, and was elected its Captain. He entered the field under Harrison. At the close of the war, he removed to Richland County, and opened a clearing and set up a cabin, a short distance from Mansfield. He remained on his farm twenty years, then removing to Mansfield, entered the mercantile







business. In 1817, he was elected to the State Senate. He was sent to Congress in 1823, and served four terms. In 1844, he became Governor of Ohio, on the Whig ticket. He declined a re-nomination, preferring to retire to his home in Mansfield, where he died in 1870.

William Bebb, the fourteenth Governor, was from Hamilton County, Ohio. He was born in 1804. His early instructions were limited, but thorough. He opened a school himself, when he was twenty years of age, at North Bend, residing in the house of Gen. Harrison. He remained thus employed a year, during which time he married Shuck. He very soon began the study of law, continuing his school. He was successful in his undertakings, and many pupils were sent him from the best families in Cincinnati. In 1831, he was admitted to practice, and opened an office in Hamilton, Butler County, remaining thus engaged for fourteen years. In 1845, he was elected Governor of Ohio. In 1847, he purchased 5,000 acres of land in the Rock River country, Ill., and removed there three years later. On the inauguration of President Lincoln, he was appointed Pension Examiner, at Washington, and remained in that position until 1866, when he returned to his Illinois farm. He died at Rockford, Ill., in 1873.

Seabury Ford, the fifteenth Governor of Ohio, was born in the year 1802, at Cheshire, Conn. His parents settled in Burton Township. He attended the common schools, prepared for college at an academy in Burton, and entered Yale College, in 1821, graduating in 1825. He then began the study of law, in the law office of Samuel W. Phelps, of Painesville, completing his course with Judge Hitchcock. He began practice in 1827, in Burton. He married Miss Harriet E. Cook, of Burton, in 1828. He was elected by the Whigs to the Legislature, in 1835, and served six sessions, during one of which he was Speaker of the House. He entered the State Senate in 1841, and there remained until 1844, when he was again elected Representative. In 1846, he was appointed to the Senate, and in 1848, he became Governor of Ohio. On the first Sunday after his retirement, he was stricken with paralysis, from which he never recovered. He died at his home in Burton in 1855.

Reuben Wood, the sixteenth Governor, was a Vermonter. Born in 1792, in Middleton, Rutland County, he was a sturdy son of the Green Mountain State. He was a thorough scholar, and obtained a classical education in Upper Canada. In 1812, he was drafted by the Canadian authorities to serve against the Americans, but being determined not to oppose his own land, he escaped one stormy night, accompanied by Bill Johnson, who was afterward an American spy. In a birchbark canoe they attempted to cross Lake Ontario. A heavy storm of wind and rain set in. The night was intensely dark, and they were in great danger. They fortunately found refuge on a small island, where they were storm-bound three days, suffering from hunger and exposure. They reached Sacket's Harbor at last, in a deplorable condition. Here they were arrested as spies by the patrol boats of the American fleet. They were prisoners



four days, when an uncle of Mr. Wood's, residing not far distant, came to their rescue, vouched for their loyalty, and they were released. Mr. Wood then went to Woodville, N. Y., where he raised a company, of which he was elected Captain. They marched to the northern frontier. The battles of Plattsburg and Lake Champlain were fought, the enemy defeated, and the company returned to Woodville and was disbanded.

Young Wood then entered the law office of Gen. Jonas Clark, at Middlebury, Vt. He was married in 1816, and two years later, settled in Cleveland, Ohio. When he first established himself in the village, he possessed his wife, infant daughter and a silver quarter of a dollar. He was elected to the State Senate in 1825, and filled the office three consecutive terms. He was appointed Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He was promoted to the Bench of the Supreme Court, serving there fourteen years, the latter portion of the term as Chief Justice. He was termed the "Cayuga Chief," from his tall form and courtly bearing. He was elected Governor in 1850, by a majority of 11,000. The new constitution, which went into effect in March, 1851, vacated the office of Governor, and he was re-elected by a majority of 26,000. The Democrats holding a national convention in Baltimore in 1852, party division caused fifty unavailing votes. The Virginia delegation offered the entire vote to Gov. Wood, if Ohio would bring him forward. The opposition of one man prevented this. The offer was accepted by New Hampshire, and Frank Pierce became President. Mr. Wood was appointed Consul to Valparaiso, South America, and resigned his office of Governor. He resigned his consulship and returned to his fine farm near Cleveland, called "Evergreen Place." He expected to address a Union meeting on the 5th of October, 1864, but on the 1st he died, mourned by all who knew him.

William Medill, the seventeenth Governor, was born in New Castle County, Del., in 1801. He was a graduate of Delaware College in 1825. He began the study of law under Judge Black, of New Castle, and was admitted to the bar in 1832. He removed to Lancaster, Ohio, in 1830. He was elected Representative from Fairfield County in 1835. He was elected to Congress in 1838, and was re-elected in 1840. He was appointed Assistant Postmaster General by President Polk. During the same year, he was appointed Commissioner of Indian Affairs. In 1851, he was elected Lieutenant Governor, and, in 1853, he became Governor. He occupied the position of First Comptroller of the United States Treasury in 1857, under President Buchanan, retaining the office until 1861, when he retired from public life. His death occurred in 1865.

Salmon P. Chase was a native of Cornish, N. H. He was born in 1803. He entered Dartmouth College in 1822, graduating in 1826. He was thereafter successful in establishing a classical school in Washington, but financially it did not succeed. He continued to teach the sons of Henry Clay, William Wirt and S. L. Southard, at the same time reading law when not busy









Yours Truly  
Henry H. Blair

GREENVILLE



as tutor. He was admitted to practice in 1829, and opened a law office in Cincinnati. He succeeded but moderately, and during his leisure hours prepared a new edition of the "Statutes of Ohio." He added annotations and a well-written sketch of the early history of the State. This was a thorough success, and gave the earnest worker popularity and a stepping-stone for the future. He was solicitor for the banks of the United States in 1834, and soon thereafter, for the city banks. He achieved considerable distinction in 1837, in the case of a colored woman brought into the State by her master, and escaping his possession. He was thus brought out as an Abolitionist, which was further sustained by his defense of James G. Birney, who had suffered indictment for harboring a fugitive slave. In 1846, associated with William H. Seward, he defended Van Zandt before the Supreme Court of the United States. His thrilling denunciations and startling conjectures alarmed the slaveholding States, and subsequently led to the enactment of the fugitive-slave law of 1850. Mr. Chase was a member of the United States Senate in 1849, through the coalition of the Democrats and Free-Soilers. In 1855, he was elected Governor of Ohio by the opponents of Pierce's administration. He was re-elected in 1859. President Lincoln, in 1861, tendered him the position of Secretary of the Treasury. To his ability and official management we are indebted for the present national bank system. In 1864, he was appointed Chief Justice of the United States. He died in the city of New York in 1873, after a useful career.

William Dennison was born in Cincinnati in 1815. He gained an education at Miami University, graduating in 1835. He began the study of law in the office of the father of George H. Pendleton, and was qualified and admitted to the bar in 1840. The same year, he married a daughter of William Neil, of Columbus. The Whigs of the Franklin and Delaware District sent him to the State Senate, in 1848. He was President of the Exchange Bank in Cincinnati, in 1852, and was also President of Columbus & Xenia Railway. He was elected the nineteenth Governor of Ohio in 1859. By his promptness and activity at the beginning of the rebellion, Ohio was placed in the front rank of loyalty. At the beginning of Lincoln's second term, he was appointed Postmaster General, retiring upon the accession of Johnson. He then made his home at Columbus.

David Tod, the twentieth Governor of Ohio, was born at Youngstown, Ohio, in 1805. His education was principally obtained through his own exertions. He set about the study of law most vigorously, and was admitted to practice in 1827. He soon acquired popularity through his ability, and consequently was financially successful. He purchased the Briar Hill homestead. Under Jackson's administration, he was Postmaster at Warren, and held the position until 1838, when he was elected State Senator by the Whigs of Trumbull District, by the Democrats. In 1844, he retired to Briar Hill, and opened the Briar Hill Coal Mines. He was a pioneer in the coal business of Ohio. In the Cleveland





& Mahoning Railroad, he was largely interested, and was its President, after the death of Mr. Perkins. He was nominated, in 1844, for Governor, by the Democrats, but was defeated. In 1847, he went to Brazil as Minister, where he resided for four and a half years. The Emperor presented him with a special commendation to the President, as a testimonial of his esteem. He was also the recipient of an elegant silver tray, as a memorial from the resident citizens of Rio Janeiro. He was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention, which met at Charleston in 1860. He was Vice President of this Convention. He was an earnest advocate for Stephen A. Douglas. When the Southern members withdrew, the President, Caleb Cushing, going with them, the convention adjourned to Baltimore, when Mr. Tod assumed the chair and Douglas was nominated. He was an earnest worker in the cause, but not disheartened by its defeat. When Fort Sumter was fired upon, he was one of the most vigorous prosecutors of the war, not relaxing his active earnestness until its close. He donated full uniforms to Company B, of the Nineteenth Regiment, and contributed largely to the war fund of his township. Fifty-five thousand majority elected him Governor in 1861. His term was burdened with war duties, and he carried them so bravely as Governor that the President said of him: "Governor Tod of Ohio aids me more and troubles me less than any other Governor." His death occurred at Briar Hill during the year 1868.

John Brough was a native of Marietta, Ohio. He was born in 1811. The death of his father left him in precarious circumstances, which may have been a discipline for future usefulness. He entered a printing office, at the age of fourteen, in Marietta, and after serving a few months, began his studies in the Ohio University, setting type mornings and evenings, to earn sufficient for support. He occupied the leading position in classes, and at the same time excelled as a type-setter. He was also admired for his athletic feats in field amusements. He completed his studies and began reading law, which pursuit was interrupted by an opportunity to edit a paper in Petersburg, Va. He returned to Marietta in 1831, and became editor and proprietor of a leading Democratic newspaper—the *Washington County Republican*. He achieved distinction rapidly, and in 1833, sold his interest, for the purpose of entering a more extended field of journalism. He purchased the *Ohio Eagle*, at Lancaster, and as its editor, held a deep influence over local and State politics. He occupied the position of Clerk of the Ohio Senate, between the years 1835 and 1838, and relinquished his paper. He then represented the counties of Fairfield and Hocking in the Legislature. He was then appointed Auditor of State by the General Assembly, in which position he served six years. He then purchased the *Phoenix* newspaper in Cincinnati, changed its name to the *Enquirer*, placing it in the care of his brother, Charles, while he opened a law office in the city. His editorials in the *Enquirer*, and his activity in political affairs, were brilliant and strong. He retired from politics in 1848, sold a half-interest in the *Enquirer* and carried on a prosperous business, but was brought forward again by leaders of both



political parties in 1863, through the Vallandigham contest, and was elected Governor the same year, by a majority of 101,099 votes in a total of 471,643. He was three times married. His death occurred in 1865—Charles Anderson serving out his term.

Jacob Dolson Cox, the twenty-second Governor, was born in 1828, in Montreal, Canada, where his parents were temporarily. He became a student of Oberlin College, Ohio, in 1846, graduating in 1851, and beginning the practice of law in Warren in 1852. He was a member of the State Senate in 1859, from the Trumbull and Mahoning Districts. He was termed a radical. He was a commissioned Brigadier General of Ohio in 1861, and, in 1862, was promoted to Major General for gallantry in battle. While in the service he was nominated for Governor, and took that position in 1865. He was a member of Grant's Cabinet as Secretary of the Interior, but resigned. He went to Congress in 1875, from the Toledo District. His home is in Cincinnati.

Rutherford B. Hayes, now the nineteenth President of the United States, the twenty-third Governor of Ohio, was born at Delaware, Ohio, in 1822. He was a graduate of Kenyon College in 1842. He began the study of law, and, in 1843, pursued that course in the Cambridge University, graduating in 1845. He began his practice at Fremont. He was married to Miss Lucy Webb in 1852, in Cincinnati. He was Major of the Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry in 1861, and in 1862, was promoted to Colonel on account of bravery in the field, and eventually became Major General. In 1864, he was elected to Congress, and retired from the service. He remained in Congress two terms, and was Governor of Ohio in 1867, being re-elected in 1869. He filled this office a third term, being re-elected in 1875.

Edward F. Noyes was born in Haverhill, Mass., in 1832. While a lad of fourteen, he entered the office of the *Morning Star*, published at Dover, N. H., in order to learn the business of printing. At the age of eighteen, he entered the academy at Kingston, N. H. He prepared for college, and entered Dartmouth in 1853, graduating with high honors in 1857. He had begun the study of law, and continued the course in the Cincinnati Law School, and began to practice in 1858. He was an enthusiast at the opening of the rebellion and was interested in raising the Twentieth Regiment, of which he was made Major. He was promoted to Colonel in 1862. At the conflict at Ruff's Mills, in Georgia, in 1864, he was so unfortunate as to lose a leg. At the time, amputation was necessary, but was unskillfully performed. He was brought to Cincinnati, and the operation was repeated, which nearly cost him his life. He reported three months later, to Gen. Hooker for duty, on crutches. He was assigned to command of Camp Dennison. He was promoted to the full rank of Brigadier General, and while in discharge of his duty at that place, he was elected City Solicitor of Cincinnati. He occupied the position until 1871, when he was elected Governor, by a majority of 20,000. He went to France in 1877, as Minister, appointed by President Hayes.







William Allen, the twenty-fifth Governor of Ohio, was born in 1807, in Chowan County, N. C. While an infant, he was left an orphan, and his sister superintended his education. He was placed in a private school in Lynchburg, Va., at the age of fourteen. Two years later, he joined his sister and family, in Chillicothe, and attended the academy a year, when he entered the law office of Edward King, and began a course of study. In his seventeenth year, he began practice, and through his talent speedily acquired fame and popularity. Before he was twenty-five, he was sent to Congress by a strong Whig district. He was elected United States Senator in 1837, there remaining until 1849. In 1845, he married Effie McArthur, who died soon after the birth of their daughter. In 1873, he was elected Governor. His administration gave general satisfaction. He died, at his home at "Fruit Hill," in 1879.

R. M. Bishop, the twenty-sixth Governor of Ohio, was born November 4, 1812, in Fleming County, Ky. He began the vocation of merchant, and for several years devoted himself to that business in his native State. In 1848, he engaged in the wholesale grocery business, in Cincinnati. His three sons became partners, under the firm name of R. M. Bishop & Sons. The sales of this house frequently exceeded \$5,000,000 per annum. Mr. Bishop was a member of the Council of Cincinnati, and in 1859 was its Mayor, holding that office until 1861. In 1860, the Legislatures of Indiana and Tennessee visited Ohio, to counsel each other to stand by the Constitution and the flag. At the reception given at Pike's Opera House, Mayor Bishop delivered an eloquent address, which elicited admiration and praises. During the same year, as Mayor, he received the Prince of Wales in the most cordial manner, a national credit as a mark of respect to a distinguished foreign guest. In 1877, he was elected Governor of Ohio, by a large majority.

Charles Foster, the present and twenty-seventh Governor of Ohio, was born in Seneca County, Ohio, April 12, 1828. He was educated at the common schools and the academy at Norwalk, Ohio. Engaged in mercantile and banking business, and never held any public office until he was elected to the Forty-second Congress; was re-elected to the Forty-third Congress, and again to the Forty-fourth Congress, as a Republican. In 1879, he was nominated by the Republicans and elected Governor of the State.

In reviewing these slight sketches of the Governors of this grand Western State, one is impressed with the active relationship they have all sustained, with credit, with national measures. Their services have been efficient, earnest and patriotic, like the State they have represented and led.

#### ANCIENT WORKS.

Ohio has furnished a prolific field for antiquarians and those interested in scientific explorations, either for their own amusement and knowledge, or for the records of "facts and formations."



It is well known that the "Mound Builders" had a wide sweep through this continent, but absolute facts regarding their era have been most difficult to obtain. Numerous theories and suppositions have been advanced, yet they are emphatic evidences that they have traced the origin and time of this primeval race.

However, they have left their works behind them, and no exercise of faith is necessary to have confidence in that part of the story. That these works are of human origin is self-evident. Temples and military works have been found which required a considerable degree of scientific skill on the part of those early architects and builders.

Evidently the Indians had no knowledge of these works of predecessors, which differed in all respects from those of the red men. An ancient cemetery has been found, covering an area of four acres, which had evidently been laid out into lots, from north to south. Nearly 3,000 graves have been discovered, containing bones which at some time must have constituted the framework of veritable giants, while others are of no unusual size. In 1815, a jaw-bone was exhumed, containing an artificial tooth of silver.

Mounds and fortifications are plentiful in Athens County, some of them being of solid stone. One, differing in the quality of stone from the others, is supposed to be a dam across the Hocking. Over a thousand pieces of stone were used in its construction. Copper rings, bracelets and ornaments are numerous. It is also evident that these people possessed the knowledge of hardening copper and giving it an edge equal to our steel of to-day.

In the branch formed by a branch of the Licking River and Raccoon Creek, in Licking County, ancient works extend over an area of several miles. Again, three miles northwest of this locality, near the road between Newark and Granville, another field of these relics may be found. On the summit of a high hill is a fortification, formed to represent an alligator. The head and neck includes 92 feet; the length of the body is 73 feet; the tail was 105 feet; from the termini of the fore feet, over the shoulders, the width is 100 feet; from the termini of the hind feet, over the hips, is 92 feet; its highest point is 7 feet. It is composed of clay, which must have been conveyed hither, as it is not similar to the clay found in the vicinity.

Near Miamisburg, Montgomery County, are other specimens. Near the village is a mound, equaled in size by very few of these antiquities. It measures 800 feet around the base, and rises to a height of sixty-seven feet. Others are found in Miami County, while at Circleville, Pickaway County, no traces remain.

Two forts have been discovered, one forming an exact square, and the other describing a circle. The square is flanked by two walls, on all sides, these being divided by a deep ditch. The circle has one wall and no ditch. This is sixty-nine rods in diameter, its walls being twenty feet high. The square fort measures fifty-five rods across, with walls twelve feet high. Twelve gateways lead into the square fort, while the circle has but one, which led to the other, at







the point where the walls of the two came together. Before each of these entrances were mounds of earth, from four to five feet high and nearly forty feet in diameter. Evidently these were designed for defenses for the openings, in cases of emergency.

A short distance from Piketon, the turnpike runs, for several hundred feet, between two parallel artificial walls of earth, fifteen feet high, and six rods apart. In Scioto County, on both sides of the Ohio, are extensive ancient works.

"Fort Ancient" is near Lebanon in Warren County. Its direct measurement is a mile, but in tracing its angles, retreating and salient, its length would be nearly six miles. Its site is a level plain, 240 feet above the level of the river. The interior wall varies in height to conform with the nature of the ground without—ranging from 8 to 10 feet. On the plain it reaches 100 feet. This fort has 58 gateways, through one of which the State road runs, passing between two mounds 12 feet high. Northeast from these mounds, situated on the plain, are two roads, about a rod wide each, made upon an elevation about three feet high. They run parallel to each other about a quarter of a mile, when they each form a semicircle around a mound, joining in the circle. It is probable this was at some time a military defense, or, on the contrary, it may have been a general rendezvous for games and high holiday festivities.

Near Marietta, are the celebrated Muskingum River works, being a half-mile from its juncture with the Ohio. They consist of mounds and walls of earth in circular and square forms, also tracing direct lines.

The largest square fort covers an area of 40 acres, and is inclosed by a wall of earth, 6 to 10 feet in height, and from 25 to 30 feet at its base. On each side are three gateways. The center gateways exceed the others in size, more especially on the side toward the Muskingum. From this outlet runs a covered means of egress, between two parallel walls of earth, 231 feet distant from each other, measuring from the centers. The walls in the interior are 21 feet high at the most elevated points, measuring 42 feet at the base, grading on the exterior to about five feet in height. This passage-way is 360 feet in length, leading to the low grounds, which, at the period of its construction, probably reached the river.

At the northwest corner, within the inclosure, is a plateau 188 feet long, 132 feet broad and 9 feet high. Its sides are perpendicular and its surface level. At the center of each side is a graded pathway leading to the top, six feet wide. Another elevated square is near the south wall, 150x120 feet square, and 8 feet high, similar to the other, with the exception of the graded walk. Outside and next the wall to ascend to the top, it has central hollow ways, 10 feet wide, leading 20 feet toward the center, then arising with a gradual slope to the top. A third elevated square is situated at the southeast corner, 108x54 feet square, with ascents at the ends. This is neither as high or as perfect as the others.



Another ancient work is found to the southeast, covering an area of 20 acres with a gateway in the center of each side, and others at the corners—each of these having the mound defense.

On the outside of the smaller fort, a mound resembling a sugar loaf was formed in the shape of a circle 115 feet in diameter, its height being 30 feet. A ditch surrounds it, 15 feet wide and 4 feet deep. These earthworks have contributed greatly to the satisfactory results of scientific researches. Their builders were evidently composed of large bands that have succumbed to the advance of enlightened humanity. The relics found consists of ornaments, utensils and implements of war. The bones left in the numerous graves convey an idea of a stalwart, vigorous people, and the conquests which swept them away from the face of the country must have been fierce and cruel.

Other mounds and fortifications are found in different parts of the State, of which our limited space will not permit a description.

Many sculptured rocks are found, and others with plainly discernible tracery in emblematical designs upon their surface. The rock on which the inscriptions occur is the grindstone grit of the Ohio exports—a stratum found in Northern Ohio. Arrow-points of flint or chert have been frequently found. From all investigations, it is evident that an extensive flint bed existed in Licking County, near Newark. The old pits can now be recognized. They extended over a hundred acres. They are partially filled with water, and surrounded by piles of broken and rejected fragments. The flint is a grayish-white, with cavities of a brilliant quartz crystal. Evidently these stones were chipped into shape and the material sorted on the ground. Only clear, homogeneous pieces can be wrought into arrow-heads and spear-points. Flint chips extend over many acres of ground in this vicinity. Flint beds are also found in Stark and Tuscarawas Counties. In color it varies, being red, white, black and mottled. The black is found in Coshocton County.

#### SOME GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS.

Ohio, as a State, is renowned as an agricultural section. Its variety, quality and quantity of productions cannot be surpassed by any State in the Union. Its commercial importance ranks proudly in the galaxy of opulent and industrious States composing this Union. Her natural resources are prolific, and all improvements which could be instituted by the ingenuity of mankind have been added.

From a quarter to a third of its area is hilly and broken. About the headwaters of the Muskingum and Scioto, and between the Scioto and the two Miami Rivers, are wide prairies; some of them are elevated and dry, with fertile soil, although they are frequently termed "barrens." In other parts, they are low and marshy, producing coarse, rank grass, which grows to a height of five feet in some places.

The State is most fortunate in timber wealth, having large quantities of black walnut, oak of different varieties, maple, hickory, birch, several kinds of







beechn, poplar, sycamore, papaw, several kinds of ash, cherry, whitewood and buckeye.

The summers are usually warm, and the winters are mild, considering the latitude of the State. Near Lake Erie, the winters are severe, corresponding with sections in a line with that locality. Snow falls in sufficient quantities in the northern part to afford several weeks of fine sleighing. In the southern portion, the snowstorms are not frequent, and the fall rarely remains long on the ground.

The climate is generally healthy, with the exception of small tracts lying near the marshes and stagnant waters.

The Ohio River washes the southern border of the State, and is navigable for steamboats of a large size, the entire length of its course. From Pittsburgh to its mouth, measuring it meanderings, it is 908 miles long. Its current is gentle, having no falls except at Louisville, Ky., where the descent is twenty-two and a half feet in two miles. A canal obviates this obstruction.

The Muskingum is the largest river that flows entirely within the State. It is formed by the junction of the Tuscarawas and Walhonding Rivers, and enters the Ohio at Marietta. One hundred miles of its length is navigable.

The Scioto is the second river in magnitude, is about 200 miles long, and flows into the Ohio at Portsmouth. It affords navigation 130 miles of its length. The Great Miami is a rapid river, in the western part of the State, and is 100 miles long. The Little Miami is seventy miles in length, and enters the Ohio seven miles from Cincinnati.

The Maumee rises in Indiana, flows through the northwestern part of the State, and enters Lake Erie at Maumee Bay. It affords navigation as far as Perrysburg, eighteen miles from the lake, and above the rapids, it is again navigable.

The Sandusky rises in the northern part of the State, is eighty miles long, and flows into Lake Erie, via Sandusky Bay.

Lake Erie washes 150 miles of the northern boundary. The State has several fine harbors, the Maumee and Sandusky Bays being the largest.

We have, in tracing the record of the earlier counties, given the educational interests as exemplified by different institutions. We have also given the canal system of the State, in previous pages. The Governor is elected every two years, by the people. The Senators are chosen biennially, and are apportioned according to the male population over twenty-one years of age. The Judges of the Supreme and other courts are elected by the joint ballot of the Legislature, for the term of seven years.

During the early settlement of Ohio, perfect social equality existed among the settlers. The line of demarkation that was drawn was a separation of the good from the bad. Log-rollings and cabin-raising were mutual affairs. Their sport usually consisted of shooting, rowing and hunting. Hunting shirts and buckskin pants were in the fashion, while the women dressed in coarse material,



woven by their own hands. A common American cotton check was considered a magnificent addition to one's toilet. In those times, however, the material was \$1 per yard, instead of the shilling of to-day. But five yards was then a large "pattern," instead of the twenty-five of 1880. In cooking utensils, the pot, pan and frying-pan constituted an elegant outfit. A few plain dishes were added for table use. Stools and benches were the rule, although a few wealthy families indulged in splint-bottom chairs. The cabin floors were rough, and in many cases the green sward formed the carpet. Goods were very expensive, and flour was considered a great luxury. Goods were brought by horses and mules from Detroit, or by wagon from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, and then down the Ohio. Coarse calicoes were \$1 per yard; tea \$2 to \$3 per pound; coffee 75 cents; whisky, from \$1 to \$2 per gallon, and salt, \$5 to \$6 per barrel. In those towns where Indian trade constituted a desirable interest, a bottle was set at each end of the counter—a gratuitous offering to their red friends.

#### OUTLINE GEOLOGY OF OHIO.

Should we group the rocks of Ohio, according to their lithological characters, we should give five distinct divisions. They are marked by difference in appearance, hardness, color and composition:

- 1—Limestone.
- 2—Black shale.
- 3—Fine-grained sandstone.
- 4—Conglomerate.
- 5—Coal series.

They are all stratified and sedimentary. They are nearly horizontal. The lowest one visible, in a physical as well as a geological sense, is "blue limestone."

The bed of the Ohio River near Cincinnati is 133 feet below the level of Lake Erie. The strata incline in all directions from the southwestern angle of the State. In Scioto County may be seen the outcropping edges of all these rocks. They sink at this point in the direction south  $80\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  east; easterly at the rate of  $37\frac{4}{10}$  feet per mile. The cliff limestone, the upper stratum of the limestone deposit, is 600 feet above the river at Cincinnati; at West Union, in Adams County, it is only 350 feet above the same level.

The finely grained sandstone found on the summit of the hills east of Brush Creek and west of the Scioto sinks to the base of the hills, and appears beneath the conglomerate, near the Little Scioto. Although the rock formations are the same in all parts of the State, in the same order, their thickness, mass and dip, are quite different.

Chillicothe, Reynoldsburg, Mansfield, Newburg, Waverly and Rockville, are situated near the western border of the "fine-grained limestone." Its outcrop forms a continuous and crooked line from the Ohio River to Lake Erie. In the southwest portion of the State is the "blue limestone," occupying a circular







space from West Union via Dayton, to the State line. The conglomerate is to the east of the given towns, bending around from Cuyahoga Falls to Burton, in Geauga County, and then eastward into Pennsylvania. Near this outcrop are the coal-bearing rocks which occupy the east and southeastern portions of Ohio. From Rockville to Chillicothe, the course is north, about  $10^{\circ}$  east, and nearly corresponds with the line of outcrop of the fine-grained sandstone for an equal distance. The dip at Rockville, given by Charles Whittlesey, is  $80\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ , almost at a right angle, and at the rate of 37 feet per mile.

At Chillicothe, the other end of the line, the general dip is south  $70^{\circ}$  east, 30 feet to the mile, the line curving eastward and the dip line to the southward. This is the universal law.

The northern boundary of the great coal fields passes through Meadville, in Pennsylvania, and turning south arrives at Portage Summit, on the summit of the Alleghanies, 2,500 feet above the ocean level. It then plunges rapidly to the westward. From the Alleghanies to the southwest, through Pennsylvania, Virginia and Tennessee, sweeps this great coal basin.

Much of the county of Medina is conglomerate upon the surface, but the streams, especially the South Branch of the Rocky River, set through this surface stratum, and reach the fine-grained sandstone. This is the case with Rocky, Chagrin, Cuyahoga and Grand Rivers—also Conneaut and Ashtabula Creeks. This sandstone and the shale extend up the narrow valleys of these streams and their tributaries. Between these strata is a mass of coarse-grained sandstone, without pebbles, which furnishes the grindstones for which Ohio is noted. In Lorain County, the coarse sandstone grit nearly displaces the fine-grained sandstone and red shale, thickening at Elyria to the black shale. South of this point, the grindstone grit, red shale and ash-colored shale vary in thickness. The town of Chillicothe, the village of Newburg, and a point in the west line of Crawford County, are all situated on the "black shale."

Dr. Locke gives the dip, at Montgomery and Miami Counties, at north  $14^{\circ}$  east, six feet to the mile; at Columbus, Whitelessey gives it,  $81^{\circ} 52'$  east,  $22\frac{53}{100}$  feet to the mile. The fine-grained sandstone at Newburg is not over eighty feet in thickness; at Jacktown and Reynoldsburg, 500; at Waverly 250 to 300 feet, and at Brush Creek, Adams County, 343 feet. The black shale is 251 feet thick at Brush Creek; at Alum Creek, 250 to 300 feet thick; in Crawford County, about 250 feet thick. The conglomerate in Jackson County is 200 feet thick; at Cuyahoga Falls, 100 to 120 feet; at Burton, Geauga County, 300 feet. The great limestone formation is divided into several numbers. At Cincinnati, at the bed of the river, there is:

- 1—A blue limestone and slaty marlite.
- 2—Dun-colored marl and layers of lime rock.
- 3—Blue marl and layers of blue limestone.
- 4—Marl and bands of limestone, with immense numbers of shells at the surface.



In Adams County, the detailed section is thus:

- 1—Blue limestone and marl.
- 2—Blue marl.
- 3—Flinty limestone.
- 4—Blue marl.
- 5—Cliff limestone.

The coal-fields of Ohio are composed of alternate beds of coarse-grained sandstone, clay shales, layers of ironstone, thin beds of limestone and numerous strata of coal. The coal region abounds in iron. From Jacktown to Concord, in Muskingum County, there are eight beds of coal, and seven strata of limestone. The distance between these two points is forty-two miles. From Freedom, in Portage County, to Poland, in Trumbull County, a distance of thirty-five miles, there are five distinct strata. Among them are distributed thin beds of limestone, and many beds of iron ore. The greater mass of coal and iron measures is composed of sandstone and shale. The beds of sandstone are from ten to twenty or eighty feet thick. Of shale, five to fifty feet thick. The strata of coal and iron are comparatively thin. A stratum of coal three feet thick can be worked to advantage. One four feet thick is called a good mine, few of them averaging five. Coal strata are found from six to ten and eleven feet. There are four beds of coal, and three of limestone, in Lawrence and Scioto Counties. There are also eight beds of ore, and new ones are constantly being discovered. The ore is from four to twelve inches thick, occasionally being two feet. The calcareous ore rests upon the second bed of limestone, from the bottom, and is very rich.

The most prominent fossils are trees, plants and stems of the coal-bearing rocks, shells and corals and crustaceæ of the limestone, and the timber, leaves and dirt-beds of the "drift"—the earthy covering of the rocks, which varies from nothing to 200 feet. Boulders, or "lost rocks," are strewn over the State. They are evidently transported from some remote section, being fragments of primitive rock, granite, gneiss and hornblende rock, which do not exist in Ohio, nor within 400 miles of the State, in any direction. In the Lake Superior region we find similar specimens.

The superficial deposits of Ohio are arranged into four geological formations:

- 1—The ancient drift, resting upon the rocks of the State.
- 2—The Lake Erie marl and sand deposits.
- 3—The drift occupying the valleys of large streams, such as the Great Miami, the Ohio and Scioto.
- 4—The boulders.

The ancient drift of Ohio is meager in shell deposits. It is not, therefore, decided whether it be of salt-water origin or fresh water.

It has, at the bottom, blue clay, with gravel-stones of primitive or sedimentary rocks, containing carbonate of lime. The yellow clay is found second. Above that, sand and gravel, less stratified, containing more pebbles of the







sedimentary rocks, such as limestone and stone, iron ore, coal and shale. The lower layer contains logs, trees, leaves, sticks and vines.

The Lake Erie section, or "Lake Erie deposits," may be classed in the following order:

1—From the lake level upward, fine, blue, marly sand—forty-five to sixty feet.

2—Coarse, gray, water-washed sand—ten to twenty feet.

3—Coarse sand and gravel, not well stratified, to surface—twenty to fifty feet.

Stratum first dissolves in water. It contains carbonate of lime, magnesia, iron, alumina, siliceous, sulphur, and some decomposed leaves, plants and sticks. Some pebbles are found. In contact with the water, quicksand is formed.

The Hickory Plains, at the forks of the Great Miami and White Water, and also between Kilgore's Mill and New Richmond, are the results of heavy diluvial currents.

In presenting these formations of the State, we have quoted from the experience and conclusions of Charles Whittlesey, eminent as a geologist, and who was a member of the Ohio Geological Corps.

#### OHIO'S RANK DURING THE WAR.

The patriotism of this State has been stanch, unswerving and bold, ever since a first settlement laid its corner-stone in the great Western wilderness. Its decisive measures, its earnest action, its noble constancy, have earned the laurels that designate it "a watchword for the nation." In the year 1860, Ohio had a population of 2,343,739. Its contribution of soldiers to the great conflict that was soon to surge over the land in scarlet terror, was apportioned 310,000 men. In less than twenty-four hours after the President's proclamation and call for troops, the Senate had matured and carried a bill through, appropriating \$1,000,000 for the purpose of placing the State on a war footing. The influences of party sentiments were forgotten, and united, the State unfurled the flag of patriotism. Before the bombardment of old Fort Sumter has fairly ceased its echoes, twenty companies were offered the Governor for immediate service. When the surrender was verified, the excitement was tumultuous. Militia officers telegraphed their willingness to receive prompt orders, all over the State. The President of Kenyon College—President Andrews—tendered his services by enlisting in the ranks. Indeed, three months before the outbreak of the war, he had expressed his readiness to the Governor to engage in service should there be occasion. He was the first citizen to make this offer.

The Cleveland Grays, the Rover Guards, the State Fencibles, the Dayton Light Guards, the Governor's Guards, the Columbus Videttes and the Guthrie Grays—the best drilled and celebrated militia in the State—telegraphed to Columbus for orders. Chillicothe, Portsmouth and Circleville offered money and troops. Canton, Xenia, Lebanon, Lancaster, Springfield, Cincinnati,



Dayton, Cleveland, Toledo and other towns urged their assistance upon the State. Columbus began to look like a great army field. The troops were stationed wherever they could find quarters, and food in sufficient quantities was hard to procure. The Governor soon established a camp at Miamiville, convenient to Cincinnati. He intended to appoint Irvin McDowell, of the staff of Lieut. Gen. Scott, to the leading command, but the friends of Capt. McClellan became enthusiastic and appealed to the Governor, who decided to investigate his case. Being satisfied, he desired Capt. McClellan to come up to Columbus. But that officer was busy and sent Capt. Pope, of the regular army, in his stead. This gentleman did not suit Gov. Dennison. The friends of McClellan again set forth the high qualities of this officer, and Gov. Dennison sent an earnest request for an interview, which was granted, and resulted in the appointment of the officer as Major General of the Ohio militia. Directly thereafter, he received an invitation to take command of the Pennsylvania troops, but Ohio could not spare so valuable a leader.

For three-years troops were soon called out, and their Generals were to be appointed by the President. Gov. Dennison advised at once with the War Department at Washington, and McClellan received his appointment as Major General in the regular army.

Cincinnati and Louisville became alarmed lest Kentucky should espouse the Confederate cause, and those cities thus be left insecure against the inroads of a cruel foe. Four hundred and thirty-six miles of Ohio bordered Slave States. Kentucky and West Virginia were to be kept in check, but the Governor proclaimed that not only should the border of Ohio be protected, but even beyond that would the State press the enemy. Marietta was garrisoned, and other river points rendered impregnable. On the 20th of May, 1861, official dispatches affirmed that troops were approaching Wheeling under the proclamation of Letcher. Their intention was to route the convention at Wheeling.

Military orders were instantly given. Col. Steedman and his troops crossed at Marietta and crushed the disturbance at Parkersburg—swept into the country along the railroad, built bridges, etc. Col. Irvine crossed at Wheeling and united with a regiment of loyal Virginians. At the juncture of the two tracks at Grafton, the columns met, but the rebels had retreated in mad haste. The loyal troops followed, and, at Philippi, fought the first little skirmish of the war. The great railway lines were secured, and the Wheeling convention protected, and West Virginia partially secured for the Union.

After preliminary arrangements, McClellan's forces moved in two columns upon the enemy at Laurel Hill. One remained in front, under Gen. Morris, while the other, under his own command, pushed around to Huttonsville, in their rear. Gen. Morris carried his orders through promptly, but McClellan was late. Rosecrans was left with McClellan's advance to fight the battle of Rich Mountain, unaided. Garnett being alarmed at the defeat of his outpost, retreated. McClellan was not in time to intercept him, but Morris continued







the chase. Steedman overtook the rear-guard of Garnett's army at Carrick's Ford, where a sharp skirmish ensued, Garnett himself falling. The scattered portions of the rebel army escaped, and West Virginia was again free from armed rebels—and was the gift of Ohio through her State militia to the nation at the beginning of the war.

At this period, Gen. McClellan was called to Washington. Gen. Rosecrans succeeded him, and the three-years troops left in the field after the disbanding of the three-months men, barely sufficed to hold the country. He telegraphed Gov. Dennison to supply him immediately with re-enforcements, the request being made on the 8th of August. Already had the Confederate leaders realized the loss they had sustained in Western Virginia, and had dispatched their most valued General, Robert E. Lee, to regain the territory. Rosecrans again wrote: "If you, Governor of Indiana and Governor of Michigan, will lend your efforts to get me quickly 50,000 men, in addition to my present force, I think a blow can be struck which will save fighting the rifled-cannon batteries at Manassas. Lee is certainly at Cheat Mountain. Send all troops you can to Grafton." Five days thereafter, all the available troops in the West were dispatched to Fremont, Mo., and the plans of Rosecrans were foiled.

Heavy re-enforcements had been sent to the column in Kanawha Valley under Gen. Cox. He became alarmed, and telegraphed to Gov. Dennison. Rosecrans again appealed to Gov. Dennison, that he might be aided in marching across the country against Floyd and Wise to Cox's relief, "I want to catch Floyd while Cox holds him in front."

The response was immediate and effective. He was enabled to employ twenty-three Ohio regiments in clearing his department from rebels, securing the country and guarding the exposed railroads. With this achievement, the direct relation of the State administrations with the conduct and methods of campaigns terminated. The General Government had settled down to a system. Ohio was busy organizing and equipping regiments, caring for the sick and wounded, and sustaining her home strength.

Gov. Dennison's staff officers were tendered better positions in the national service. Camps Dennison and Chase, one at Cincinnati and the other at Columbus, were controlled by the United States authorities. A laboratory was established at Columbus for the supply of ammunition. During the fall and early winter, the Ohio troops suffered in Western Virginia. The people of their native State responded with blankets, clothing and other supplies.

In January, 1862, David A. Tod entered upon the duties of Governor. The first feature of his administration was to care for the wounded at home sent from Pittsburg Landing. A regular system was inaugurated to supply stores and clothing to the suffering at home and in the field. Agencies were established, and the great and good work was found to be most efficacious in alleviating the wretchedness consequent upon fearful battles. A. B. Lyman



and charge of affairs in Cincinnati, and Royal Taylor held the same position in Louisville. J. C. Wetmore was stationed at Washington, F. W. Bingham at Memphis, Weston Flint at Cairo and St. Louis. Thus the care which Ohio extended over her troops at home and in the battle-field, furnished a practical example to other States, and was the foundation of that commendable system all over the Union. Stonewall Jackson's sudden advent in the valley created the greatest consternation lest the safety of the capital be jeopardized, and the War Department called for more troops. Gov. Tod immediately issued a proclamation, and the people, never shrinking, responded heartily. At Cleveland a large meeting was held, and 250 men enlisted, including 27 out of 32 students attending the law school. Fire bells rang out the alarm at Zanesville, a meeting was convened at 10 in the morning, and by 3 in the afternoon, 300 men had enlisted. Court was adjourned *sine die*, and the Judge announced that he and the lawyers were about to enter into military ranks. Only three unmarried men between the ages of eighteen and twenty-three were left in the town of Putnam. Five thousand volunteers reported at Camp Chase within two days after the proclamation.

Again in June, the President called for troops, followed by yet another call. Under these calls, Ohio was to raise 74,000 men. The draft system was advised to hasten and facilitate filling regiments. It has always been a repulsive measure. To save sections from this proceeding, enormous sums were offered to induce men to volunteer, and thus fill the quota.

Counties, townships, towns and individuals, all made bids and urged the rapid enlistment of troops. The result was, that the regiments were filled rapidly, but not in sufficient numbers to prevent the draft. Twenty thousand four hundred and twenty-seven men were yet lacking, and the draft was ordered, September 15. At the close of the year, Ohio was ahead of her calls. Late in the fall, the prospect was disheartening. The peninsula campaign had failed. The Army of Northern Virginia had been hurled back nearly to Washington. The rebels had invaded Maryland; Cincinnati and Louisville were threatened, and the President had declared his intention to abolish slavery, as a war measure. During the first part of 1862, artillery, stores and supplies were carried away mysteriously, from the Ohio border; then little squads ventured over the river to plunder more openly, or to burn a bridge or two. The rebel bands came swooping down upon isolated supply trains, sending insolent roundabout messages regarding their next day's intentions. Then came invasions of our lines near Nashville, capture of squads of guards within sight of camp, the seizure of Gallatin. After Mitchell had entered Northern Alabama, all manner of depredations were committed before his very eyes. These were attributed to John Morgan's Kentucky cavalry. He and his men, by the middle of 1862, were as active and dangerous as Lee or Beauregard and their troops. Morgan was a native of Alabama, but had lived in Kentucky since boyhood. His father was a large slave-owner, who lived in the center of the "Blue Grass Country." His







life had been one of wild dissipation, adventure and recklessness, although in his own family he had the name of being most considerate. The men who followed him were accustomed to a dare-devil life. They formed an independent band, and dashed madly into the conflict, wherever and whenever inclination prompted. Ohio had just raised troops to send East, to assist in the overthrow of Stonewell Jackson. She had overcome her discouragements over failures, for the prospects were brightening. Beauregard had evacuated Corinth; Memphis had fallen; Buell was moving toward Chattanooga; Mitchell's troops held Northern Tennessee and Northern Alabama; Kentucky was virtually in the keeping of the home guards and State military board. And now, here was Morgan, creating confusion in Kentucky by his furious raids! On the 11th of July, the little post of Tompkinsville fell. He issued a call for the Kentuckians to rise in a body. He marched toward Lexington, and the southern border of Ohio was again in danger. Cincinnati was greatly excited. Aid was sent to Lexington and home guards were ready for duty. Morgan was not prominent for a day or so, but he was not idle. By the 9th of July, he held possession of Tompkinsville and Glasgow; by the 11th, of Lebanon. On the 13th, he entered Harrodsburg; Monday morning he was within fifteen miles of Frankfort. He had marched nearly 400 miles in eight days. Going on, toward Lexington, he captured the telegraph operator at Midway, and his messages also! He was now aware of the plans of the Union armies at Lexington, Louisville, Cincinnati and Frankfort. In the name of the operator, he sent word that Morgan was driving in the pickets at Frankfort! Now that he had thrown his foes off guard, he rested his men a couple of days. He decided to let Lexington alone, and swept down on Cynthiana, routing a few hundred loyal Kentucky cavalymen, capturing the gun and 420 prisoners, and nearly 300 horses. Then he was off to Paris; he marched through Winchester, Richmond, Crab Orchard and Somerset, and again crossed the Cumberland River. He started with 900 men and returned with 1,200, having captured and paroled nearly as many, besides destroying all the Government arms and stores in seventeen towns. The excitement continued in Cincinnati. Two regiments were hastily formed, for emergencies, known as Cincinnati Reserves. Morgan's raid did not reach the city, but it demonstrated to the rebel forces what might be accomplished in the "Blue Grass" region. July and August were passed in gloom. Bragg and Buell were both watchful, and Chattanooga had not been taken. Lexington was again menaced, a battle fought, and was finally deserted because it could not be held.

Louisville was now in danger. The banks sent their specie away. Railroad companies added new guards.

September 1, Gen. Kirby Smith entered Lexington, and dispatched Heath with about six thousand men against Cincinnati and Covington. John Morgan joined him. The rebels rushed upon the borders of Ohio. The failure at Richmond only added deeper apprehension. Soon Kirby Smith and his regiments





Yours truly  
L. M. Buchwalter M.D.  
Greenwich Ohio





occupied a position where only a few unmanned siege guns and the Ohio prevented his entrance through Covington into the Queen City. The city was fully armed, and Lew. Wallace's arrival to take command inspired all with fresh courage. And before the people were hardly aware that danger was so near, the city was proclaimed under strict martial law. "Citizens for labor, soldiers for battle."

There was no panic, because the leaders were confident. Back of Newport and Covington breastworks, rifle pits and redoubts had been hastily thrown up, and pickets were thrown out. From Cincinnati to Covington extended a ponton bridge. Volunteers marched into the city and those already in service were sent to the rescue. Strict military law was now modified, and the city being secured, some inconsiderate ones expressed themselves as being outraged with "much ado about nothing." But Gen. Wallace did not cease his vigilance. And Smith's force began to move up. One or two skirmishes ensued. The city was again excited. September 11 was one of intense suspense. But Smith did not attack in force. He was ordered to join Bragg. On the Monday following, the citizens of Cincinnati returned to their avocations. In the spring of 1863, the State was a trifle discouraged. Her burdens had been heavy, and she was weary. Vicksburg was yet in the hands of the enemy. Rosecrans had not moved since his victory at Stone River. There had been fearful slaughter about Fredericksburg.

But during July, 1863, Ohio was aroused again by Bragg's command to Morgan, to raid Kentucky and capture Louisville. On the 3d of July, he was in a position to invade Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. He continued his depredations, bewildering the militia with his movements. His avowed intention was to burn Indianapolis and "take Cincinnati alive." Morgan's purposes were never clear. It was his audacious and sudden dashes, here and there, which gave him success. Before Cincinnati was aware, he was at Harrison—13th of July. He expected to meet the forces of Burnside and Judah, and to cut his way through. His plans here, as everywhere, were indefinable, and he succeeded in deceiving everybody. While printers in Cincinnati were setting up "reports" as to his whereabouts, he was actually marching through the suburbs, near troops enough to devour them, and yet not encountered by a single picket! They fed their horses within sight of Camp Dennison. At 4 o'clock that day, they were within twenty-eight miles of Cincinnati—having marched more than ninety miles in thirty-five hours.

The greatest chagrin was expressed, that Morgan had so easily eluded the great military forces. A sudden dash was made to follow him. There was a universal bolting of doors, burying of valuables, hiding of horses, etc., all along the route of the mad cavalryman and his 2,000 mounted men. They plundered beyond all comparison. They made a principle of it. On the 14th of July, he was feeding his horses near Dennison; he reached the ford at Buffington Island on the evening of the 18th; he had encountered several little skirmishes,



but he had marched through at his own will, mostly; all the troops of Kentucky had been outwitted. The Indiana forces had been laughed to scorn. The 50,000 Ohio militia had been as straws in his way. The intrepid band would soon be upon friendly soil, leaving a blackened trail behind. But Judah was up and marching after him, Hobson followed and Col. Runkle was north of him. The local militia in his advance began to impede the way. Near Pomeroy, a stand was made. Morgan found militia posted everywhere, but he succeeded in running the gantlet, so far as to reach Chester. He should have hastened to cross the ford. Fortunately, he paused to breathe his horses and secure a guide. The hour and a half thus lost was the first mistake Morgan is known to have made in his military career. They reached Portland, and only a little earthwork, guarded by about 300 men, stood between him and safety. His men were exhausted, and he feared to lead them to a night attack upon a position not understood perfectly; he would not abandon his wagon train, nor his wounded; he would save or lose all. As Morgan was preparing next morning, having found the earthworks deserted through the night, Judah came up. He repulsed the attack at first, capturing Judah's Adjutant General, and ordering him to hold the force on his front in check. He was not able to join his own company, until it was in full retreat. Here Lieut. O'Neil, of the Fifth Indiana, made an impulsive charge, the lines were reformed, and up the Chester road were Hobson's gallant cavalymen, who had been galloping over three States to capture this very Morgan! And now the tin-clad gunboats steamed up and opened fire. The route was complete, but Morgan escaped with 1,200 men! Seven hundred men were taken prisoners, among them Morgan's brother, Cols. Ward, Duke and Huffman. The prisoners were brought to Cincinnati, while the troops went after the fugitive. He was surrounded by dangers; his men were exhausted, hunted down; skirmishes and thrilling escapes marked a series of methods to escape—his wonderful sagacity absolutely brilliant to the very last—which was his capture, on the 26th, with 346 prisoners and 400 horses and arms. It may be added, that after several months of confinement, Morgan and six prisoners escaped, on the 27th of November. Again was he free to raid in the "Blue Grass" country.

John Brough succeeded Gov. Tod January 11, 1864. His first prominent work was with the Sanitary Commission. In February, of the same year, the President called for more troops. The quota of Ohio was 51,465 men. The call of March added 20,995. And in July was a third demand for 50,792. In December, the State was ordered to raise 26,027. The critical period of the war was evidently approaching. Gov. Brough instituted a reformation in the "promotion system" of the Ohio troops. He was, in many cases, severe in his measures. He ignored "local great men" and refused distinction as a bribe. The consequence was that he had many friends and some enemies. The acuteness of his policy was so strong, and his policy so just, that, after all his severe administration, he was second to no statesman in the nation during the struggle.







Ohio during the war was most active in her relief and aid societies. The most noted and extensive organization was the Cincinnati Branch of the United States Sanitary Commission. The most efficient organization was the Soldiers' Aid Society of Northern Ohio.

When the happy tidings swept over the land that peace was proclaimed, an echo of thanksgiving followed the proclamation. The brave sons of Ohio returned to their own soil—those who escaped the carnage. But 'mid the rejoicing there was deepest sadness, for a fragment only remained of that brave army which had set out sturdily inspired with patriotism.

#### A BRIEF MENTION OF PROMINENT OHIO GENERALS.

George Briton McClellan, the first General appointed in Ohio, was born December 3, 1826, in Philadelphia. His father was a physician of high standing and Scottish descent. Young George was in school in Philadelphia, and entered West Point at the age of sixteen. At the age of twenty, he was a brevet Second Lieutenant, tracing lines of investment before Vera Cruz, under the supervision of Capt. R. E. Lee, First Lieut. P. G. T. Beauregard, Second Lieut. G. W. Smith. At the close of the Mexican war, old Col. Totten reported in favor of them all to Winfield Scott. He had charge of an exploring expedition to the mountains of Oregon and Washington, beginning with the Cascade Range. This was one of a series of Pacific Railway explorations. Returning to Washington, he was detailed to visit the West Indies and secretly select a coaling station for the United States Navy. He was dispatched by Jefferson Davis, Secretary of War, to Europe, with instructions to take full reports of the organization of military forces connected with the Crimean war. This work elicited entire satisfaction. He returned in January, 1857, resigned as regular army officer, and was soon installed as engineer of Illinois Central Railroad. In 1860, he was President of the Ohio & Mississippi. He removed to Cincinnati, where he was at the opening of the war.

William Starke Rosecrans was born September 6, 1819, in Delaware County, Ohio. His people were from Amsterdam. He was educated at West Point. When the war opened, he espoused the cause of the Union with enthusiastic zeal, and was appointed by McClellan on his staff as Engineer. June 9, he was Chief Engineer of the State under special law. Soon thereafter, he was Colonel of the Twenty-third Ohio, and assigned to the command of Camp Chase, Columbus. On May 16, his commission was out as Brigadier General in the United States Army. This reached him and he was speedily summoned to active service, under Gen. McClellan. After the battle of Rich Mountain, he was promoted to the head of the department.

In April, 1862, he was succeeded by Fremont, and ordered to Washington to engage in immediate service for the Secretary of War. About the 15th of May, he was ordered to Gen. Halleck, before Corinth. He was relieved from his command December 9, 1864.



Ulysses S. Grant, whose history we cannot attempt to give in these pages, was born on the banks of the Ohio, at Point Pleasant, Clermont Co., Ohio, April 27, 1822. He entered West Point in 1839.

"That the son of a tanner, poor and unpretending, without influential friends until his performance had won them, ill-used to the world and its ways, should rise—not suddenly, in the first blind worship of helpless ignorance which made any one who understood regimental tactics illustrious in advance for what he was going to do, not at all for what he had done—but slowly, grade by grade, through all the vicissitudes of constant service and mingled blunders and success, till, at the end of four years' war he stood at the head of our armies, crowned by popular acclaim our greatest soldier, is a satisfactory answer to criticism and a sufficient vindication of greatness. Success succeeds."

"We may reason on the man's career; we may prove that at few stages has he shown personal evidence of marked ability; we may demonstrate his mistakes; we may swell the praises of his subordinates. But after all, the career stands wonderful, unique, worthy of study so long as the nation honors her benefactors, or the State cherishes the good fame of the sons who contributed most to her honor."

Lieut. Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman was another Ohio contribution to the great Union war. He was born at Lancaster February 8, 1820. He entered West Point in June, 1836. His "march to the sea" has fully brought out the details of his life, since they were rendered interesting to all, and we refrain from repeating the well-known story.

Philip H. Sheridan was born on the 6th of March, 1831, in Somerset, Perry Co., Ohio. He entered West Point in 1848. During the war, his career was brilliant. His presence meant victory. Troops fighting under his command were inspired. Gen. Rosecrans said of him, "He fights, he fights." A staff officer once said, "He is an emphatic human syllable."

Maj. Gen. James B. McPherson was born in Sandusky County, town of Clyde, November 14, 1828.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore was born February 28, 1825, at Black River, Lorain Co., Ohio.

Maj. Gen. Irvin McDowell was born at Franklinton, Ohio, October 15, 1818.

Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell was born near Marietta on the 23d of March, 1818. His grandfather on the maternal side was one of the first settlers of Cincinnati.

Maj. Gen. O. M. Mitchell was a native of Kentucky, but a resident of Ohio from the age of four years.

Maj. Gen. Robert C. Schenck was born October 4, 1809, in Franklin, Warren Co., Ohio.

Maj. Gen. James A. Garfield, was born in Orange, Cuyahoga Co., Ohio, November 19, 1831.







Maj. Gen. Jacob D. Cox was born in Canada in 1828, and removed to Ohio in 1846.

Maj. Gen. James B. Steedman was born in Pennsylvania July 30, 1818, and removed to Toledo in 1861.

Maj. Gen. David S. Stanley was born in Wayne County, Ohio, June 1, 1828.

Maj. Gen. George Crook was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, September 8, 1828.

Maj. Gen. Mortimer D. Leggett was born in New York April 19, 1831, and emigrated to Ohio, in 1847.

Brevet Maj. Gen. John C. Tidball was born in Virginia, but removed while a mere lad to Ohio with his parents.

Brevet Maj. Gen. John W. Fuller was born in England in 1827. He removed to Toledo in 1858.

Brevet Maj. Gen. Manning F. Force was born in Washington, D. C., on the 17th of December, 1824. He became a citizen of Cincinnati.

Brevet Maj. Gen. Henry B. Banning was born in Knox County, Ohio, November 10, 1834.

We add the names of Brevet Maj. Gens. Erastus B. Tyler, Thomas H. Ewing, Charles R. Woods, August V. Kautz, Rutherford B. Hayes, Charles C. Walcutt, Kenner Garrard, Hugh Ewing, Samuel Beatty, James S. Robinson, Joseph W. Keifer, Eli Long, William B. Woods, John W. Sprague, Benjamin P. Runkle, August Willich, Charles Griffin, Henry J. Hunt, B. W. Brice.

Brig. Gens. Robert L. McCook, William H. Lytle, William Leroy Smith, C. P. Buckingham, Ferdinand Van Derveer, George P. Este, Joel A. Dewey, Benjamin F. Potts, Jacob Anmen, Daniel McCook, J. W. Forsyth, Ralph P. Buckland, William H. Powell, John G. Mitchell, Eliakim P. Scammon, Charles G. Harker, J. W. Reilly, Joshua W. Sill, N. C. McLean, William T. H. Brooks, George W. Morgan, John Beatty, William W. Burns, John S. Mason, S. S. Carroll, Henry B. Carrington, M. S. Wade, John P. Slough, T. K. Smith.

Brevet Brig. Gens. C. B. Ludlow, Andrew Hickenlooper, B. D. Fearing, Henry F. Devol, Israel Garrard, Daniel McCoy, W. P. Richardson, G. F. Wiles, Thomas M. Vincent, J. S. Jones, Stephen B. Yeoman, F. W. Moore, Thomas F. Wilder, Isaac Sherwood, C. H. Grosvenor, Moses E. Walker, R. N. Adams, E. B. Eggleston, I. M. Kirby.

We find numerous other names of Brevet Brigadier Generals, mostly of late appointments, and not exercising commands in accordance with their brevet rank, which we omit quoting through lack of space. They are the names of men of rare abilities, and in many cases of brilliant achievements.

In looking over the "War Record of Ohio," we find the State a great leader in men of valor and heroic deeds. It was the prolific field of military geniuses.



Ohio was draped with the garb of mourning at the close of the war. Her human sacrifice in behalf of the nation had been bitter. There were tears and heart-aches all over the land. Her ranks were swept by a murderous fire, from which they never flinched, and many officers fell.

Col. John H. Patrick will be remembered as opening the battle of Lookout Mountain. He fell mortally wounded, during the Atlanta campaign, May 15, 1862, while actively engaged. He was struck by a canister shot, and expired half a hour thereafter.

Col. John T. Toland, in July, 1863, was placed in command of a mounted brigade, including his regiment, and was instructed to destroy the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad. He reached Wytheville, Va., on the afternoon of the 18th of July. The rebels were safely intrenched in the house, and poured a galling fire into the national troops. Col. Toland was on horseback, at the head of his command. A sharpshooter sent a bullet with fatal certainty, and he fell on the neck of his horse, but was instantly caught by his Orderly Sergeant, who heard the fervent words: "My horse and my sword to my mother."

Lieut. Col. Barton S. Kyle accompanied his regiment to the battle of Pittsburg Landing. The regiment was forced back, though resisting bravely. Lieut. Col. Kyle was at his post of duty, encouraging his men, when he received a bullet in his right breast. He survived five hours.

Col. William G. Jones was engaged in the battle of Chickamauga, June, 1863. His regiment, the Thirty-sixth Ohio, was included in Turchin's Brigade of the Fourteenth Corps. He wrote in his pocket memoranda: "Off to the left; merciful Father, have mercy on me and my regiment, and protect us from injury and death"—at 12 o'clock. At 5 that afternoon, he was fatally wounded and expired at 7 that same evening, on the battle-field. His remains were taken by the rebels, but in December, 1863, they were exhumed and interred in Spring Grove Cemetery, Cincinnati.

Col. Fred. C. Jones held command of the Tenth Brigade, in October, 1862, marching from Wild Cat, Ky., to Nashville, through a perpetual skirmish. During the battle of Stone River, Col. Jones' regiment, the Twenty-fourth, was on the front and left of the line. During the afternoon, when the rebel assault upon the left became furious, Col. Jones ordered his men to lie down and hold fire, which was obeyed. They rose to pour a deadly volley into the rebel ranks, and rush forward in a fierce charge. The capture of an entire rebel regiment was thus effected, but Col. Jones was shot in the right side. He was carried to the rear. "I know it; I am dying now; pay no attention to me, but look after my wounded men." He survived about ten hours. His remains are buried in Spring Grove, Cincinnati.

Col. Lorin Andrews went with his command to Western Virginia, where he succumbed to exposure and severe duty. He was removed to his home, Gambier, Ohio, where he died surrounded by friends September 18, 1861.







Col. Minor Milliken was sent to repel the attacks of the rebels at the rear. He led a superb cavalry charge against the enemy, vastly superior in numbers, and was cut off with a small portion of his regiment. He disdained to surrender, and ordered his men to cut their way out. A hand-to-hand conflict ensued. Col. Milliken, being an expert swordsman, was able to protect himself with his saber. While parrying the strokes of his assailant, another shot him. The regiment, again charging, recovered his body, stripped of sword, purse and watch.

Col. George P. Webster, with his regiment, the Ninety-eighth, left Steubenville for Covington, Ky., August 23, 1862, marching from that point to Lexington and Louisville. He was placed at the command of the Thirty-fourth Brigade, Jackson's division, Cooke's corps. He fell in the battle of Perryville, and died on the field of battle.

Col. Leander Stem was appointed Colonel of the One Hundred and First Ohio Infantry August 30, 1862. His premonitions that he should fall during his first regular engagement proved too true. As the army was advancing on Murfreesboro, the engagement of Knob Gap occurred, when Col. Stem's regiment charged and took a rebel battery, with several prisoners. The army closed around Murfreesboro, and on the evening of the 30th, the One Hundred and First was engaged in demonstrations against the enemy. Next morning, the battle of Stone River began in earnest. When Col. Stem's regiment began to waver, he called out: "Stand by the flag now, for the good old State of Ohio!" and instantly fell, fatally wounded.

Lieut. Col. Jonas D. Elliott held his position in May, 1863. During the summer of 1864, he commanded the left wing of the regiment at Dodsonville, Ala.; in September, he was sent after Wheeler, and was ordered into camp at Decatur. On the 23d, he was dispatched to Athens, to participate in the attack of Gen. Forrest, of the rebels. Col. Elliott was sent out, with 300 men, and being surrounded by Gen. Forrest, with vastly superior numbers, a forced resistance enabled them to sustain their own ground, until a fresh brigade of rebels arrived, under Gen. Warren. This officer instructed one of his men to shoot Lieut. Col. Elliott, and a moment later he fell. He lingered nineteen days.

Col. Joseph L. Kirby Smith took command of the Forty-third Ohio Regiment. He fell at the battle of Corinth, under Rosecrans.

Lieut. Col. James W. Shane fell, June 27, 1864, in an assault upon the enemy's works at Kenesaw. He survived but forty minutes.

Col. Augustus H. Coleman displayed the abilities of a successful commander. He was in the first charge on the bridge across Antietam Creek. He was fatally wounded. His last words were inquiries regarding his men.

Col. J. W. Lowe commanded the Twelfth Ohio, and was ordered to assist the Tenth in the battle of Carnifex Ferry. Cheering his men, in the thickest of the fight, a rifle ball pierced his forehead, and he fell dead—the first field officer from Ohio killed in battle in the war for the Union.



Lieut. Col. Moses F. Wooster was engaged with his regiment, the One Hundred and First Ohio, at Perryville. He was mortally wounded on the 31st of December, 1862, in the grand effort to stem the tide of defeat at Stone River.

The list of staff officers we refrain from giving, through lack of space.

At the opening of the war, William Dennison was Governor of Ohio. David Tod succeeded him. John Brough was the third War Governor.

Secretary Edwin M. Stanton was one of the most popular war Ministers. He was born in Steubenville, Ohio, in 1815; he was engaged in the United States Circuit Court, in 1860, in a leading law suit, at Cincinnati, known as the Manny and McCormick reaper trial; on the 20th of January, 1862, he was appointed Secretary of War by Mr. Lincoln.

Ex-Secretary Salmon P. Chase's public services in Ohio have already been mentioned in these pages. In 1861, he was appointed Secretary of the Treasury, in Mr. Lincoln's cabinet.

United States Senator B. F. Wade made his reputation in Ohio. This Senator of the State stood at the head of the Committee on the Conduct of the War throughout its duration.

United States Senator John Sherman was a leading member of the Finance Committee, during the war. For some time he was its Chairman.

Jay Cooke was the financial agent of the Government, furnishing money for the payment of the troops. He was born in Portland, Huron Co., Ohio.

In our brief review of the war record of Ohio, we have omitted a vast amount of detail information that would prove interesting to our readers. We believe we have been accurate in whatever we have given, taking as our authority, that accepted "encyclopedia" of Ohio war facts—Whitelaw Reid, who has published a valuable volume on the subject.

#### SOME DISCUSSED SUBJECTS.

It may be well in glancing over the achievements of Ohio, her momentous labors and grand successes, to refer to the Ordinance of 1787, more minutely than we have done, in relation to many events, since its inherent principles are not only perpetuated in the laws of the entire Northwest, but have since been woven into the general Constitution of the United States. It made permanent the standard and character of immigration, social culture and political and educational institutions. It was thoroughly antislavery and denounced involuntary servitude, which was sanctioned in every other State at that time, with the exception of Massachusetts. It protected religion and property. As late as 1862, Gen. William Henry Harrison, Governor of Indiana, called a convention for the purpose of considering the slavery question, and the feasibility of introducing the system in the new States and Territories being formed. There was at this time a spirited contest, and Illinois, Indiana and possibly Ohio, barely escaped a decision that a full support should be given its introduction.







into these States. Its adoption was based upon certain specifications and limits of time, which upon a deeper consideration was deemed perplexing and impractical.

An animated discussion arose not long since, regarding the correct authorship of this important ordinance, and its chief worker in gaining its sanction by Congress.

Mr. Webster ascribed its authorship to Mathew Dane, of Massachusetts, which statement was immediately refuted by Mr. Benton, of Mississippi, who laid claim to it as the birthright of Thomas Jefferson, of Virginia.

It has been almost impossible to obtain accurate reports of the actions of the old Continental Congress, from the fact that its meetings were held in secret, and any reports either narrated or shown in schedules or lists, were deemed a striking lack of trust on the part of the person who furnished the information. It was sufficient that its acts and conclusions be proclaimed without any prelude or reasoning process. Hence it has been difficult to obtain early Congressional documents. But it has been conclusively proven that the great motive power in gaining the approbation of the Ordinance of 1787, was neither Dane nor Jefferson, but Dr. Cutler.

He arrived at New York, July 5 of that year, after a journey from Ipswich, Mass., in his sulky. He obtained lodgings at the "Plow and Harrow," and saw that his good horse was properly cared for and fed at the same place. Congress was then in session, and he had come on a mission for the Ohio Company, to negotiate their grant and its privileges in the new Territory of Ohio. He remained in New York three weeks, constantly engaged in the work vital to the interests of the future great State. But he secured the installment of the principles deemed the corner-stone of a future powerful State constitution. Mr. Poole, Librarian of the Chicago Public Library, searched assiduously for conclusive proof of Dr. Cutler's right to this honor, and in the *North American Review*, Vol. 122, this is emphatically set forth with substantiating proof under his signature.

Other facts have been discussed and proven at a very recent date, relative to the State of Ohio, which heretofore have been omitted, and nearly lost from the historic thread which unites the present with the past.

The first settlement of the lands of the Northwest is necessarily surrounded with interest. But those were exciting, troublesome times, and a few links were passed over lightly. However, the years are not so far removed in the past but the line may be traced.

Mr. Francis W. Miller, of Cincinnati, has supplied some missing chapters. The earliest documentary trace extant, regarding the southern settlement at Cincinnati, is an agreement of partnership between Denman, Filson and Patterson, in the fractional section of land to which the city of Cincinnati was originally limited. It bears the date August 25, 1788. This was entered on the records of Hamilton County, Ohio, October 6, 1803.



A letter from Jonathan Dayton to the Hon. Judge Symmes, dated September 26, 1789, says: "You have been selling your lands, I am told, for two shillings specie, the acre. The price at this moment is, and seems to be, and undoubtedly is, a good one; but as much cannot be said of it when you find hereafter that in consequence of the rise of certificates, another acre, in another payment, may cost you in specie two shillings and sixpence."

A letter from John C. Symmes to Capt. Dayton, dated April 30, 1790, says: "The land in the reserved township is held at much too high a price. Not a foot of land beyond the five-acre lots will sell. Five shillings, specie, or two dollars in certificates, is the utmost they will bring, and they will rarely sell at that."

This state of affairs was in a large degree brought about by the breaking-up of North Bend and a removal of the town to Fort Washington, or Cincinnati later. A search through the old letters and other preserved documents prove that North Bend was at one time the beginning of the great city on the Ohio, rather than Cincinnati. Judge Symmes wrote, May 18, 1789: "I have not as yet been able to make a decisive choice of a plat for the city, though I have found two pieces of ground, both eligible, but not upon the present plan of a regular square. It is a question of no little moment and difficulty to determine which of these spots is preferable, in point of local situation. I know that at first thought men will decide in favor of that on the Ohio, from the supposition that the Ohio will command more trade and business than the Miami. \* \* \* But if it were built on the Miami, the settlers throughout the purchase would find it very convenient."

Another of the earliest selections of town sites was adjacent to the most southerly point of what is now Delhi Township. To this the name of South Bend was given. Judge Symmes reports November 4, 1790, of this place. over forty framed and hewed-log two-story houses, since the preceding spring. Ensign Luce is said to have taken his troops to North Bend, but decided to remove to Cincinnati, on account of the object of his affections having settled there—the wife of a settler. But this story is refuted by contradictory evidence from Judge Symmes' letters, which illustrate the fact that the post of North Bend was abandoned by Ensign Luce and his men in consequence of a panic, caused by Indian attacks. The removal of the troops caused a general decline of the town. Again, history and letters from the same eminent Judge, assert that Fort Washington was completed and garrisoned by Maj. Doughty before the close of that same year, and was begun by him during the summer, that Ensign Luce must have still been at his post at the bend at that time. It has been, therefore, recently accepted that the traditional "black eyes" and the "Indian panic," had nothing to do with the founding of Cincinnati, and that the advantages of the position gained the victory.

Cincinnati has advanced, not only in prosperity and culture, but in national significance. Our readers must have observed, in perusing these pages, that







from this city and the State which it represents, have emanated some of the superior intellects which have used their wise faculties and talents, tempered by a wise judgment, in behalf of the American Union.

The originality of the Senecas and Wyandots have been debated at some length, while others have called the tribes the same, having two branches. We have searched the earlier records and have found an authenticated account of these two tribes.

The Indian tribes of Ohio were originally bold, fierce and stalwart. The country watered by the Sandusky and its tributaries was frequented by the Wyandot tribe, who came from the north side of the St. Lawrence River. The Senecas were blood relatives of this tribe. Both tribes were numbered by the thousands. A war originated between them, in this manner: A Wyandot chief desired to wed the object of his affections, who laughed him to scorn, because he had taken no scalps, and was no warrior "to speak of." To change her opinion, he led out a party, and falling upon a number of Senecas, slaughtered them mercilessly, that he might hasten to the side of his dusky belle, with his trophies. This act inaugurated hostilities, which extended through a century. The Wyandots began to fear extermination, and, gathering their entire effects, the natives escaped to Green Bay, and settled in several villages. But the Senecas made up a war party and followed them, killing many Wyandots and burning some of their villages. They then returned to Canada. Soon thereafter, they secured fire-arms from the French. Again they followed the Wyandots, firing their guns into their huts, and frightening them severely. They did not succeed as well as they expected. But the third party nearly exterminated the villages, because the young warriors were nearly all gone to war with the Foxes. The few at home escaping, promised to return with the Senecas, but desired two days for preparation. The Wyandots sent word to the two villages left undisturbed, and held a consultation. They decided to go as near the Senecas as possible, unobserved, and discover their real motive. They found them feasting on two roasted Wyandots, shouting over their victory. They danced nearly all night, and then fell asleep. A little before daylight, the Wyandots fell on them, leaving not one to carry back the news.

The Wyandots then procured guns, and began to grow formidable. They set out to return to their own country, and proceeded on their way as far as Detroit, where they met a party of Senecas, on the lake. A fierce conflict ensued, and the Wyandots beheld the Senecas fall, to the last man, suffering fearful carnage themselves. They soon settled in this part of the world, their principal village being on the Sandusky. Northwestern Ohio was particularly dangerous with new Indian tribes, and the Wyandots were cruelly aggressive. The death of their chief, and their total defeat by Harrison, destroyed their power forever.

On the 29th of September, 1817, a treaty was held, at the foot of the rapids of the Miami of Lake Erie, between Lewis Cass and Duncan McArthur,



Commissioners of the United States, and the sachems, chiefs and warriors of the Wyandot, Seneca, Delaware, Shawnee, Potawattomie, Ottawa and Chippewa nations. *All their lands in Ohio were ceded to the United States forever.*

There was really not a Seneca in the Seneca nation. They were chiefly Cayugas, Mohawks, Onondagas, Tuscarawas, Wyandots and Oneidas. But the Mingoes were originally Cayugas, and their chief was the celebrated Logan. After the murder of his family by the whites, the Mingoes were scattered over the territory northwest of the Ohio.

The notorious Simon Girty was adopted by the Senecas. Girty's name was a terror and fiendish horror for many years. He not only led the Indians in their atrocities, but he added barbarism to their native wickedness.

#### CONCLUSION.

When peace was proclaimed, after the surrender of Gen. Robert E. Lee to Gen. U. S. Grant, the volunteer troops disbanded, and a return to home industries instituted, Ohio, like many other States, gave direct attention to the interests of returned soldiers. The thrift of the State was augmented by a spasmodic, and thereafter recognized as a fictitious, demand for products, commercial and industrial pursuits redoubled their forces. But the great wave of stagnation swept over this fair land—the re-action of a war excitement. Laborers were many, but wages were inadequate. Deeper and deeper settled this lethargy—called by many “hard times”—until the wheels of commercial life revolved slowly, and from the workshops and the factories went up the echoes of privation and distress. There was no famine, no fever, no epidemic, it was simply exhaustion. In the larger cities there was much suffering. Idle people loitered about, barely seeking employment, the task seeming worse than hopeless.

During the years 1870, 1871 and 1872, the stringent measures brought about by the depressed state of business retarded any material advancement in general matters. The years 1873–74 were marked by a preceptible improvement, and a few factories were established, while larger numbers were employed in those already founded. The year 1875 was under the direction of a Democratic Legislature. It was marked in many respects by a “reverse motion” in many laws and regulations.

The Legislature which convened in 1876, January 3, was Republican in the main. It repealed the “Geghan Law” passed by the preceding body. At the time of its adoption, there was the most intense feeling throughout the State, the charge being made that it was in the interests of the Catholics. Among the general enactments were laws re-organizing the government of the State institutions, which the previous Legislature had ordered according to their own belief to follow new doctrines. The office of Comptroller of the Treasury was abolished. The powers of municipal corporations to levy taxes was limited, and their authority to incur debts was limited. Furthermore, this body prohibited any municipal appropriations, unless the actual money was in the Treasury to meet







the same in full. A law was passed for the protection of children under fourteen years of age, exhibited in public shows.

The temperance cause received more vigorous and solid support than was ever rendered by the State previously. A common-sense, highly moral and exalted platform was formed and supported by many leading men.

This year witnessed the serious "strikes" among the miners in Stark and Wayne Counties. The consequences were painful—distress, riots and destruction of property.

The State Mine Inspector reported 300 coal mines in the State, with only twenty-five in operation. Not over 3,000,000 tons of coal were raised during the year, owing to the dullness of the times.

The State charities reported the aggregate number under public care to be 29,508. The taxation for the maintenance of these classes was one and one six-hundredth of a mill on each dollar of taxable property.

The reports given of the year 1877 indicated a revival of business interests and prosperity. The State produced of wheat, 27,306,566 bushels; rye, 944,106 bushels; buckwheat, 225,822 bushels; oats, 29,325,611; barley, 1,629,817 bushels; corn, 101,884,305 bushels; timothy, tons of hay, 2,160,334; clover, tons of hay, 286,265; flax, pounds of fiber, 7,343,294; potatoes, 10,504,278 bushels; sweet potatoes, 126,354½ bushels; tobacco, 24,214,950 pounds; sorghum, sugar, 7,507¼ pounds; syrup, 1,180,255 gallons; maple sugar, 1,625,215 pounds; maple syrup, 324,036 gallons; honey, 1,534,902 pounds.

The year 1878 was marked by a more vigorous and combined effort of the people to entirely overcome the stagnation of business, the influence of the lethargy yet combating the awakened interest. This energy was amply rewarded in 1879, by a general dawning of the "good times" so ardently desired. New enterprises were instituted, manufactories erected, improvements carried on, and agriculture was successful. Before the year closed, the State was basking in the light of prosperity, and the year 1880 was ushered in when the confidence of the people was again a permanent incentive—confidence in the nation, their State, each in the other and themselves. The old-time crown of power, influence and integrity, which Ohio has earned, is conspicuous in this year of 1880. The jewels have been reset, and we confidently doubt not that their luster will remain undimmed intrusted to so faithful and so earnest a people.





## POPULATION OF OHIO BY COUNTIES.

COUNTIES.							
	1830	1830	1840	1850	1860	1870	
The State .....	581434	937903	1519467	1980829	2339511	2665260	.....
1 Adams .....	10406	12281	18188	18883	20009	21750	.....
2 Allen .....	578	578	9079	12109	19135	23623	.....
3 Ashland .....				28313	22951	21933	.....
4 Ashtabula .....	7382	14584	23724	25767	31814	32517	.....
5 Athens .....	6338	9787	19109	18215	21964	23763	.....
6 Auglaize .....				11338	17187	24041	.....
7 Belmont .....	26329	28837	30941	34600	36393	39714	.....
8 Brown .....	13336	17867	22715	27322	29953	33403	.....
9 Butler .....	21746	27142	28173	30789	35840	39912	.....
10 Carroll .....			18108	17685	15738	14491	.....
11 Champaign .....	8479	12181	16721	19782	22603	24188	.....
12 Clark .....	9533	13114	16882	22178	25304	32070	.....
13 Clermont .....	15820	20466	22106	20455	23004	24468	.....
14 Clinton .....	8083	11436	15719	18838	21461	21914	.....
15 Columbiana .....	22023	33592	40573	33621	32836	35299	.....
16 Coshocton .....	7086	11901	21590	25674	25002	26000	.....
17 Crawford .....		4791	18152	18177	23831	25556	.....
18 Cuyahoga .....	6323	10373	26806	48009	78033	134010	.....
19 Darke .....	3717	6204	18282	20276	26009	32278	.....
20 Deane .....				6966	11886	15719	.....
21 Delaware .....	7689	11504	22060	21817	22902	25175	.....
22 Erie .....			12599	18563	24474	24188	.....
23 Fairfield .....	16633	24756	31924	30264	30638	31183	.....
24 Fayette .....	6316	8182	10884	12726	15635	17170	.....
25 Franklin .....	10292	14741	25049	42909	56361	63419	.....
26 Fulton .....				7781	14043	17739	.....
27 Gallia .....	7093	9783	13444	17063	22042	25545	.....
28 Geauga .....	7791	13513	16397	17827	15817	14190	.....
29 Greene .....	10520	14801	17523	21946	26197	28038	.....
30 Guernsey .....	9292	18036	27748	30428	24474	22818	.....
31 Hamilton .....	31764	52517	80145	156844	216410	260370	.....
32 Hancock .....		813	9989	16751	23886	20847	.....
33 Hardin .....		210	4508	8251	13570	18714	.....
34 Harrison .....	14345	20916	20699	20157	19110	18100	.....
35 Henry .....		262	2843	9434	5201	14028	.....
36 Highland .....	13208	16345	22360	25781	27773	29133	.....
37 Hocking .....	2130	4008	9741	14119	17657	17925	.....
38 Holmes .....		9135	18083	20452	20589	18177	.....
39 Huron .....	6675	10441	23933	26203	26616	24532	.....
40 Jackson .....	5746	9041	9744	12719	17941	21759	.....
41 Jefferson .....	18331	22189	25030	29133	29115	29183	.....
42 Knox .....		17085	25079	28872	37633	38333	.....
43 Lake .....			18719	14654	15576	15333	.....
44 Lawrence .....	3499	5567	9783	15246	23249	31280	.....
45 Licking .....	11861	20869	35066	38846	37011	35156	.....
46 Logan .....	3151	6440	14015	19162	20066	23023	.....
47 Lorain .....		5096	18467	29086	26744	30008	.....
48 Lucas .....			8282	12263	25831	46722	.....
49 Madison .....	4799	6190	9025	18115	19015	15633	.....
50 Mahoning .....				23535	28944	31041	.....
51 Marion .....			12913	13913	18130	18130	.....
52 Medina .....	3082	7500	12872	24441	22517	20092	.....
53 Meigs .....	4480	6158	11452	17871	26534	31065	.....
54 Mercer .....		1110	8377	7712	14104	17254	.....
55 Miami .....	8851	12807	19088	24999	29959	32740	.....
56 Monroe .....	4615	8708	18521	28551	25741	25779	.....
57 Montgomery .....	15099	24502	31063	38218	53200	64066	.....
58 Morgan .....	5207	11800	20852	35755	23119	20063	.....
59 Morrow .....				23091	18415	15883	.....
60 Muskingum .....	17824	26000	35719	45949	44116	44016	.....
61 Noble .....					20751	19449	.....
62 Ottawa .....			2343	2208	7016	13364	.....
63 Paulding .....		161	1064	1705	4945	8544	.....
64 Perry .....	8429	13750	19344	29775	19878	18453	.....
65 Pickaway .....	13149	16001	19735	21006	23469	24575	.....
66 Pike .....	4253	6024	7026	10553	13013	15447	.....
67 Portage .....	18065	18065	22065	21119	21308	24534	.....
68 Preble .....	10237	16291	19182	21736	21800	24000	.....
69 Putnam .....		4291	5109	7821	12808	17081	.....
70 Richland .....	9169	21066	44522	39879	31153	32516	.....
71 Ross .....	20619	24068	27160	32074	35071	37087	.....
72 Sandusky .....	852	2851	10182	14305	21429	25003	.....
73 Scioto .....	5750	8740	11192	18428	24297	29292	.....
74 Seneca .....		5159	19128	27004	30008	30008	.....
75 Shelby .....	2106	2671	12154	13958	17493	20713	.....
76 Stark .....	12046	26588	31004	29878	42078	52078	.....
77 Summit .....			25000	27000	37000	47000	.....
78 Trumbull .....	15016	26133	40000	50000	60000	70000	.....
79 Tuscarawas .....	8328	14298	22001	31761	33463	38840	.....
80 Union .....	1996	3192	8422	12204	16507	18730	.....
81 Van Wert .....		49	1577	4793	10223	15823	.....
82 Vinton .....				9753	13631	15007	.....
83 Warren .....	17837	21163	23141	25599	28002	28002	.....
84 Washington .....	10425	11701	18023	20649	26000	30000	.....
85 Wayne .....	11933	22000	33000	32001	31003	35116	.....
86 Williams .....		287	4165	8018	16003	20001	.....
87 Wood .....		733	1102	9157	17886	21596	.....
88 Wyandot .....				11194	15546	18553	.....





## POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES.

STATES AND TERRITORIES.	Area in square Miles.	POPULATION.		Miles R. R. 1872.	STATES AND TERRITORIES.	Area in square Miles.	POPULATION.		Miles R. R. 1872.
		1870.	1875.				1870.	1875.	
<i>States.</i>									
Alabama.....	50,722	996,992	1,671		Pennsylvania.....	46,000	3,521,791	5,113	
Arkansas.....	52,198	484,471	25		Rhode Island.....	1,306	217,353	258,239	135
California.....	188,981	560,247	1,013		South Carolina.....	29,385	705,606	925,145	1,201
Connecticut.....	4,674	537,454	820		Tennessee.....	45,600	1,258,520	1,520	
Delaware.....	2,120	125,015	227		Texas.....	237,504	818,579	865	
Florida.....	59,268	187,748	466		Vermont.....	10,212	330,551	675	
Georgia.....	58,000	1,184,109	2,108		Virginia.....	40,904	1,225,163	1,499	
Illinois.....	55,410	2,539,691	3,994		West Virginia.....	23,000	442,014	485	
Indiana.....	33,809	1,680,637	3,529		Wisconsin.....	53,924	1,054,670	1,236,722	1,723
Iowa.....	55,045	1,191,792	1,350,544	3,160					
Kansas.....	81,318	364,399	528,349	1,760	<i>Total States.....</i>				
Kentucky.....	37,600	1,321,011	1,123		1,950,171 38,113,253 59,537				
Louisiana.....	41,346	726,915	857,039	539	<i>Territories.</i>				
Maine.....	31,776	626,915	871		Arizona.....	113,916	9,658		
Maryland.....	11,184	780,894	820		Colorado.....	104,500	39,864	392	
Massachusetts.....	7,800	1,457,351	1,651,912	1,696	Dakota.....	147,480	14,181		
Michigan.....	56,451	1,134,058	1,334,031	2,235	Dist. of Columbia.....	69	131,700		
Minnesota.....	83,531	439,706	593,429	1,612	Idaho.....	90,932	14,999		
Mississippi.....	47,156	827,922	990		Montana.....	143,776	20,955		
Missouri.....	65,350	1,721,295	2,580		New Mexico.....	121,201	91,874		
Nebraska.....	75,995	123,993	246,280	828	Utah.....	80,056	86,786	375	
Nevada.....	112,090	42,491	52,540	593	Washington.....	69,944	23,955		
New Hampshire.....	9,280	318,300	790		Wyoming.....	93,107	9,118	498	
New Jersey.....	8,320	906,096	1,026,502	1,265	<i>Total Territories.....</i>				
New York.....	47,000	4,382,739	4,705,208	4,470	965,032 442,730 1,265				
North Carolina.....	50,704	1,071,361	1,190		<i>Aggregate of U. S. 2,915,203 38,555,983 60,852</i>				
Ohio.....	39,964	2,665,260	3,740		* Included in the Railroad Mileage of Maryland.				
Oregon.....	95,244	90,923	159						

\* Last Census of Michigan taken in 1874.

\* Included in the Railroad Mileage of Maryland.

## PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD; POPULATION AND AREA.

COUNTRIES.	Population.	Date of Census.	Area in Square Miles.	Inhabitants to Square Mile.	CAPITALS.	Population.
China.....	446,500,000	1871	3,741,846	119.3	Pekin.....	1,648,800
British Empire.....	226,817,108	1871	4,677,432	48.6	London.....	3,251,800
Russia.....	81,925,400	1871	8,003,778	10.2	St. Petersburg.....	667,000
United States with Alaska.....	38,925,600	1870	4,693,534	7.75	Washington.....	109,149
France.....	36,469,800	1866	204,091	178.7	Paris.....	1,825,300
Austria and Hungary.....	35,904,400	1869	240,348	149.4	Vienna.....	833,900
Japan.....	34,785,300	1871	149,399	232.8	Yeddo.....	1,554,900
Great Britain and Ireland.....	31,817,100	1871	121,315	262.3	London.....	3,251,800
German Empire.....	29,906,092	1871	160,207	187.	Berlin.....	825,400
Italy.....	27,439,921	1871	118,847	230.9	Rome.....	244,484
Spain.....	16,642,000	1867	195,775	85.	Madrid.....	332,000
Brazil.....	10,000,000	.....	3,253,029	3.07	Rio Janeiro.....	420,000
Turkey.....	16,463,000	.....	672,621	24.4	Constantinople.....	1,075,000
Mexico.....	9,173,000	1869	761,526	.....	Mexico.....	210,300
Sweden and Norway.....	5,921,500	1870	292,871	20.	Stockholm.....	136,900
Persia.....	5,000,000	1870	635,964	7.8	Teheran.....	120,000
Belgium.....	5,021,300	1869	11,373	441.5	Brussels.....	314,160
Prussia.....	4,861,400	1871	29,292	165.9	Munich.....	169,500
Portugal.....	3,995,200	1868	34,494	115.8	Lisbon.....	244,000
Holland.....	2,688,300	1870	12,680	209.9	Hague.....	90,100
New Grenada.....	3,000,000	1870	357,157	8.4	Bogota.....	45,000
Chile.....	2,000,000	1869	132,616	15.1	Santiago.....	115,400
Switzerland.....	2,669,100	1870	15,992	166.9	Berne.....	36,000
Peru.....	2,500,000	1871	471,838	5.3	Lima.....	160,160
Ecuador.....	2,000,000	.....	497,321	4.	Quichisaca.....	25,000
Argentine Republic.....	1,812,000	1869	871,848	2.1	Buenos Ayres.....	177,800
Württemberg.....	1,818,500	1871	7,533	241.4	Stuttgart.....	91,600
Denmark.....	1,784,700	1870	14,753	120.9	Copenhagen.....	162,042
Venezuela.....	1,500,000	.....	368,238	4.2	Caracas.....	47,000
Baden.....	1,461,400	1871	5,912	247.	Carlsruhe.....	36,600
Greece.....	1,457,900	1870	19,353	75.3	Athens.....	43,400
Guatemala.....	1,180,000	1871	40,879	28.9	Guatemala.....	40,000
Paraguay.....	1,300,000	.....	218,928	5.9	Quito.....	70,000
Uruguay.....	1,000,000	1871	63,747	15.6	Asuncion.....	48,000
Senegal.....	823,138	.....	2,669	277.	Darmstadt.....	30,000
San Salvador.....	718,000	1871	9,576	74.9	Monrovia.....	3,000
Haiti.....	600,000	1871	7,335	81.8	San Salvador.....	15,000
San Marino.....	572,000	.....	10,205	56.	Port au Prince.....	20,000
Sanaragua.....	350,000	1871	58,171	6.	Managua.....	10,000
Paraguay.....	300,000	1871	66,732	6.5	Monte Video.....	44,500
San Blas.....	350,000	1871	47,092	7.4	Conayagua.....	12,000
San Domingo.....	136,000	.....	17,827	7.6	San Domingo.....	20,000
Costa Rica.....	165,000	1870	21,505	7.7	San Jose.....	2,000
Hawaii.....	62,950	.....	7,633	80.	Honolulu.....	7,633



	1860.	1870.	1870.		1880.
			Native.	Foreign.	
Adams .....	1755	2291	2196	95	2827
Bradford .....		243	220	23	526
Gettysburg .....		228	211	17	285
Allen .....	536	781	745	26	1246
Brown .....	1066	1239	1157	82	1948
Dallas .....		221	203	18	542
Butler.....	1398	1524	1491	33	1729
Castine.....		177	169	8	238
Franklin .....	983	1366	1318	48	1837
German .....	1385	1743	1718	25	1800
Palestine.....		264	255	9	257
*Tampico .....		67	65	2	.....
Greenville .....	4321	5688	5069	619	6809
Coletown .....		86	85	1	69
Greenville .....	1650	2520	2161	359	3535
Pikeville .....		356	304	52	85
Harrison .....	1823	2007	1947	60	2159
*Hollandsburg.....		239	239	.....	.....
New Madison .....		452	408	44	546
Jackson .....	1346	2088	1953	135	3192
Union City .....		792	686	106	1163
Mississinawa....	722	798	757	41	1507
Monroe .....	1015	1226	1138	88	1400
Neave .....	906	1093	1072	21	1083
*Jefferson .....		107	99	8	.....
*Sampson .....		346	346	.....	.....
Patterson .....	748	978	857	121	1253
Richland.....	914	1105	1066	39	1249
Twin.....	1673	1998	1931	67	2734
Arcanum .....		450	443	7	786
*Gordon .....		87	82	5	.....
Ithaca .....		150	146	4	128
Van Buren .....	912	1212	1189	23	1530
Wabash .....	542	824	797	27	1135
Washington .....	1397	1537	1498	39	1602
Hillgrove .....		117	104	13	186
Wayne .....	1652	1983	1736	247	2763
Versailles.....				.....	1163
York .....	625	797	762	35	1000
Totals .....	26009	32278	.....	.....	40833

\* Not taken separately in 1880.





HISTORY OF GREENE COUNTY



*Geo. W. Moore*

GREENVILLE TP.



# HISTORY OF DARKE COUNTY.

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INDIAN HISTORY—ORGANIZATION AND EARLY SETTLEMENT OF THE COUNTY, AND  
EARLY HISTORY OF GREENVILLE TOWNSHIP AND CITY.

BY JOHN WHARRY.

TO narrate the history of any given locality is a labor that seldom satisfies the writer who engages in it, and more frequently fails to interest or gratify the reader. Many things must be omitted from want of information, and the relation of many more, for the want of correct information as to both actors and events, would be better left unattempted. The uncertainty of human memory, and the defects, mutilations and losses of record evidence must frequently expose the labor of the historian to just criticism, and not unfrequently to unjust incredulity.

The rise and fall of the "Northwest Territory," from its creation by the ordinance of July 13, 1787, to its present status of five large and populous States, now in a great measure controlling the nation of which they form so important a part, seems so like a vision of Ezekiel, Daniel or John, that the narration of that rise and progress must now, near the close of the first century of that progress, be deemed mythical and incredible.

Ninety-three years ago, there were not within the limits of the Territory, exclusive of fifty or sixty thousand Indians, who have been swept away like the mist on the river, two thousand people, if half that number, of Caucasian lineage, and that thousand or upward have multiplied until the census of the current year, 1880, will show a product of ten millions. This transformation has taken place within three generations, and has never been equaled, save in the close of the fourth and beginning of the fifth century, when the North Pole swarmed and a new race swept down and trod out of sight the old Roman Empire, extending from Thule to the Caspian, and from Ormus to the Pillars of Hercules.

Ohio was the first-born of the ordinance of '87, and is now—if not the "key-stone" of the arch of the Union—the "Valley of Achor and the door of hope" of the Nation (we spell the word with a big N), of which she forms so conspicuous a part.

But the writer has not undertaken to write the history of the United States, the Northwest Territory, nor the State of Ohio; that duty must devolve upon somebody else. His only purpose is to gather up and save from utter oblivion some of the incidents, men and events, where presence and occurrence go to make a part, and a part only, of the history of the town of Greenville, and the township in which it is located.

Some events in its earlier years made it then a place of some note, while many other events of later date may not seem to deserve recital or perusal here, and would be recorded to little purpose, save that the narrator desires to give obedience to the old injunction, "not to despise the day of small things."

The town of Greenville, the county seat of one of the largest and best agricultural counties of Ohio, like many other towns of the State, has a history, and, like many others whose history dates back to a period beyond the memory of "the





oldest inhabitant," many events making part of the history are certain, and capable of truthful and accurate narration, whilst many others are of that character that, to now relate them with a truthful regard to time and place, and actors and circumstances, is a duty that requires care and labor to discriminate between myth and truth and between fiction and fact; and this the writer purposes to do as best he may, premising that many events of which mention will be made came to his knowledge half a century ago, from the actors in those events, who are now all passed away.

In the old Territorial days, under the administration of the first President of the United States, attempts were made to subdue the aboriginal race that occupied the Northwest Territory, and open it up for the occupancy of those who would plant and foster civilization; and there were many such, who desired to find homes for themselves and their children after them, in the valleys of the Muskingum, Scioto, and the two Miamis.

Scarcely had a settlement been projected in the Territory by Putnam and Symmes and their associates, founders of Marietta and Cincinnati, when an expedition was organized and force sent against the Indians of Ohio, under the command of Gen. Josiah Harmar.

This foray, ill disciplined, ill provided for and ill commanded, in a very short time was defeated and scattered, with great loss of men and means, and the prospect of the Territory was darkened.

To this day, the accounts of Harmar's defeat are a puzzle and a trouble to historians, and their statements as to time and place disagree, and all are more or less right, and are also more or less wrong.

The facts, when simply and truthfully related, were, that Harmar's army was in a state of mutiny, and had separated into three bodies, each "going on its own hook," that were met and disastrously defeated by the Indians on different days and places, between the headwaters of the Maumee, Miami and Scioto, in the region of what is now Hardin and Hancock Counties. The greater number of these forces thus divided—and nominally under Harmar's command, but in fact under no command whatever—were slaughtered or captured, and those who escaped fled as best they could to Wheeling, Pittsburgh, Limestone or Cincinnati. Of these, there were enough left to tell the tale, and it was told so many different ways, that, although nearly everybody believed a part, scarcely anybody believed but a part of the then current relations of Harmar's campaign and defeat. The disaster occurred in the summer of 1789.

Maj. George Adams, then a soldier in Harmar's army, again in the service as a Captain of scouts under Wayne, and, nearly twenty years later, commandant of the garrison at Greenville, during the negotiations preceding the execution of the treaty of 1814, of which notice will be taken, and, later in life, a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Darke County, was five times shot and severely wounded in one of three several defeats of Harmar. He survived, and was carried on a litter between two horses to Cincinnati, although on the way a grave was dug for him three evenings in succession. With his ashes in the Martin Cemetery, three miles east of Greenville, are two of the bullets of the five, which he carried in his body from 1789 until his decease in 1832.

The next movement against the Indians was set on foot in 1791. At the head of this was placed in command by President Washington, who was a great stickler for red tape and things, Gen. St. Clair, Governor of the Northwest Territory, and with him was placed, as second in command, Gen. Richard Butler, with whom he had not been on speaking terms for ten years, owing to an old feud dating back to the Massacre of Wyoming, in the days of the Revolution.

St. Clair, with an army of half-disciplined and half-provisioned men, marched north from Cincinnati, into an unknown wilderness, in October, 1791, and before he reached the Wabash, which, in the absence of correct geographical knowledge, was supposed to be the St. Mary's River, his command was in almost the same condition





of Harmar's army, two years before; one regiment was in open mutiny, and was on the retreat, and another was sent back to reduce the refractory to subjection. Late in the evening of November 3, 1791, his troops, which had been on a forced march, and on half rations, all day, lay down weary and hungry, in an improvised camp, on the bank of the river, where the town of Recovery is now located. The Indians were in force within a mile beyond the river, under the leadership of Little Turtle, the war chief of the Miamis, who, in this engagement, were re-enforced by the Wyandots, Pottawatomies and Shawnees, under their chiefs.

Before daybreak on the morning of November 4, 1791, a day long remembered by many mourning families, from the Monongahela to the Miami, St. Clair's force, numbering about 1,300 men, was attacked, and in less than two hours 600 men were dead and the residue routed and fleeing as fast as their famished condition would permit. Many were slaughtered on the retreat, and it was no unusual thing, after the lapse of more than forty years, in clearing up the lands of Gibson Township, in which the site of the defeat is situated, to find the bleached bones of dead who fell by the wayside.

The news of St. Clair's defeat spread over the land, and the nation was excited, and, as is frequently the case in like excitements, the actual loss, great as it was, was greatly exaggerated, and blame for the disaster placed on other shoulders than where it rightly belonged.

No such disaster had befallen the whites in a conflict with the Indians, since Logan had defeated Lord Dunmore at the battle of the Point, before the Revolution. A court-martial was called and deliberated; after many days' investigation, St. Clair was acquitted of blame, and none dared to charge the disaster to those who should have been held responsible for it; but now, after the lapse of almost a century, it is beginning to be understood that the disasters of 1789 and 1791 are to be laid at the door of Gen. Washington, then President of the United States, and Gen. Knox, his Secretary of War.

St. Clair, in his march northward, passed over the plain on which the town of Greenville now stands, had not noted its adaptability to military uses, although he had fortified a post at Fort Jefferson, five miles south of it, and in a military point of view having no characteristics of a locality that could be defended from an external enemy.

The demand of the people of Western Pennsylvania and Northwestern Virginia for more lands had its effect on Congress, as well as upon the President, and measures were taken to organize another campaign against the Indians, who yet held the valleys of the Miami, Scioto and Muskingum. For the command of the force sought to be raised to clear out and subjugate all the southern part of Ohio, the President selected Gen. Anthony Wayne, a Revolutionary General, yet in the prime of life, as the commander of the force soon to be raised for the purpose of clearing the Northwest Territory of its enemies.

Wayne had before him the knowledge so dearly bought by the preceding campaigns of Harmar and St. Clair, and fully appreciated the causes of disaster in each of those campaigns, and set himself to remedy the trouble so patent to a military man, that chiefly caused the failure of those campaigns. An army was soon recruited, numbering between three and four thousand men, carefully officered, and then began the business of drill and discipline.

The summer and fall of 1792, and the winter and spring of 1793, passed away, and Wayne's forces were yet under daily exercise, acquiring efficiency for the duty that would soon be required of them. Fort Washington, now inside the limits of Cincinnati; Fort Hamilton, the present county seat of Butler County, and another fort, occupying the present site of Eaton, were built and garrisoned, and in the fall of 1793, Wayne, with the residue of his force, proceeded northward and occupied a plain on the southwest branch of the Great Miami, where he built and strongly fortified a post that was for the next two years to be his headquarters, and which he named, in honor of his old friend of the Revolution, Fort Greenville.





Wayne's arrival on the ground on which he built Fort Greenville, and which now is wholly within the limits of the present town of Greenville, was on the 13th of October, 1793, and from that date may be said to commence the history of the town of Greenville, and with its history, it may also be said, commenced the development of the Northwest Territory, as created by the ordinance of the old Congress six years before, into the now great States of Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin, occupying the center, and in a great measure controlling the action, civil and political, of the United States of America.

#### FORT GREENVILLE.

When Wayne first occupied Fort Greenville, in the autumn of 1793, anything like a civil government in the Northwest Territory could hardly be said to have an existence, as the little hamlets of Marietta and Cincinnati were the only places between the Ohio and Mississippi where there was any call for a Judge or Justice of the Peace, a Sheriff or a Constable. The Territory had, two years before, been parceled out by the Governor and Council into the five counties of Washington, Hamilton, Knox, St. Clair and Wayne, the boundaries whereof at this day no man knoweth, and can only infer their location by learning that the Judges of the Territory performed circuit duty and went through the forms of holding courts at Marietta, Cincinnati, Vincennes, Kaskaskia and Detroit, the seats of justice of the several counties before named.

The same fall that Wayne occupied Fort Greenville, a detachment of his army advanced northward and built and garrisoned small stockade fortresses of sufficient strength to withstand any force likely to be brought by his Indian foes against them at Fort Recovery, on the ground of St. Clair's defeat; Loramie's, where the Indians and French burned out David and Alexander Loramie in 1752; at St. Mary's, on the river of the same name, which is a tributary of the Maumee, or, as it was then called, the Miami of the Lakes, and at some other points. Fort Recovery, soon after it was built, was attacked by an Indian force nearly ten times the number of its garrison, but safely withstood the attack and severely punished its assailants. In the Indian council which preceded the assault on Fort Recovery, occurred one of those seemingly little disagreements which engendered distrust, but had an influence which, as we shall see, had a subsequent effect, and tended months afterward to spread distrust in the Indian host, and bear evil fruit. Little Turtle strongly urged his allies to let the fort alone, as it was not against such places that their warriors could hope for success. His efforts were unavailing, and the assault was made against his counsel and judgment, and he quietly informed his own tribe, the Miamis, that they could "see just as well if they kept back out of harm's way, and let those who were desirous of butting their heads against Gibson's palisades try it on, and see what would come of it." The Miamis profited by his advice, and although appearing to aid in the effort to win the victory over Gibson and his garrison, after a whole day's hard fight and when night came and an account of killed and wounded was taken, were found to have sustained little or no loss. The Wyandots, Pottawatomies and Shawnees had suffered severely. This brought about distrust and jealousy of the Turtle and his counsel that prevented his advice from being heeded, when it probably might have secured as great a victory over Wayne as he had obtained over St. Clair nearly three years before.

Wayne passed the winter of 1793-94 in strengthening his position, securing supplies and getting his command in good fighting trim and order, as well as in obtaining full and thorough information of all that was going on in the Indian camps and councils. His spies, "trigged" out in their paint and grease, were everywhere from Greenville to beyond the Maumee, and took note of everything, and kept their commander thoroughly posted. Elliott and McKee were doing their best at Detroit to stimulate their allies to perseverance, and had their adherents in Wayne's headquarters at Greenville; and one prominent individual, implicated



by intercepted letters, was arrested and ironed and laid in the guardhouse for months, and although the evidence was insufficient to establish his complicity and treachery by proof, such as a court would require, but few in the army had any doubt of his guilt. It is not best, even at this late day, to name the man alluded to, as his descendants in the third and fourth generation occupy high social standing in Western Ohio.

In June, 1794, Wayne, having learned that the Indian force was embodied and within a few miles of him, took the field with about 3,000 men, leaving still a strong garrison in Fort Greenville, and took up his line of march with care, circumspection and no undue haste, to the northward, taking the route toward Laramie and St. Mary's. On the third night after leaving Greenville, his forces were encamped in the southeastern part of what is now Patterson Township, and the main body of the Indians were not more than two miles distant from him on the bank of Black Swamp Creek, in the same township. On that night, at a council held in the Indian camp, at which Maj. Adams, of whom mention has been previously made in these pages, and who had so far recovered of the wounds received five years before, as to be in the service in Wayne's army, was present, disguised in full Indian rig and paint, Little Turtle strongly urged that an onslaught be made before morning. This advice was withstood by the Crane, head chief of the Wyandots, and by the Shawnee and Pottawatomie chiefs, and the head men of other tribes who were in the Indian force. The reasons given by those who opposed the Turtle's counsel were, that they desired Wayne to be farther away from his home, as they designated Fort Greenville, and that they could better engage him when they were nearer their friends, as they designated a British fort and garrison on the Maumee, which had been kept up in defiance of the stipulations of the treaty of 1783; but the true reason of their opposition to the Turtle's advice was their distrust of him, excited the previous autumn at Recovery.

The views of the majority prevailed, and the two armies, seldom more than three or four miles apart, continued to move to the north until, on the morning of July 20, 1794, at Rouge De Bout, beyond the Maumee, in plain view of the English fort, and almost in reach of its guns, the Indians made a stand and were routed with considerable loss, and fled for succor to the fort, but were not permitted to enter, as Col. Campbell, the commander, had a wholesome apprehension of what might befall him and his garrison, if he gave any cause, by manifesting an interest for the safety of his friends. Subsequently to the battle, some spicy correspondence took place between Wayne and Col. Campbell, but all that came of it was that Wayne contented himself with burning and destroying everything pertaining to the fort and its garrison outside of their stockade. After the defeat of the Indians, the commander built and garrisoned a fort named after himself, at the confluence of the St. Mary and St. Joseph Rivers, where they unite to form the Maumee, and another down the Maumee, at the junction with the Auglaize.

The Indians, finding themselves sorely pressed by Wayne, who, as Little Turtle said, slept with his eyes open, and deriving no aid or comfort from their English allies, either on the Maumee or at Detroit, soon began to think that peace, on the terms they ascertained could be had, was better than to have their braves exterminated by the unerring rifles of Wayne's scouts, who seemed to them to be everywhere, began to make overtures, as they had learned an important lesson. In the old French war, which had been terminated in 1763, before many of those who now formed their force were born, their old men remembered that they were always upheld by their French allies, but the English race, now in power in Upper Canada, and along the frontier, cared no more for the Indians than they did for their dogs, save as it would subserve their own purposes, irrespective of what of good or evil might fall to the lot of the red men.

Arrangements were made in the latter part of the spring of 1795, the chiefs, head men and warriors of a number of the tribes assembled at Fort Greenville, where, after several weeks' negotiation, the terms of a treaty were agreed upon,







and, with all due formalities, signed by the contracting parties on the 3d day of August, 1795, and in due time was approved and confirmed, and peace restored. By this treaty, in consideration of sundry perpetual annuities to the several tribes represented at Greenville, some of which remain annually payable to this day, there was ceded to the United States almost the entire south half of the State of Ohio, and a large gore of Eastern Indiana, and a number of small tracts to be used by the United States as sites for occupation for military purposes within what yet remained as Indian Territory.

Wayne's treaty opened up for settlement, by a white population, the valleys of the Muskingum, Hockhocking, Scioto and the Little and Great Miami Rivers, and the lower tributaries, and the business of surveying the newly acquired territory into ranges, townships and sections, preparatory to entry and settlement, went on with little intermission for several years, and after the withdrawal of Wayne's army and the evacuation of Greenville, Recovery, Loramie and other frontier posts by their garrisons, the surveyors employed by the Government, and their assistants, were the only white men who were at any time found within the limits of the territory that in after years became the county of Darke, named after one of the brave but unfortunate officers of St. Clair's army, who met his death at Recovery in November, 1791.

Fort Greenville was evacuated by its garrison in the spring of 1796, and, later in the same year, was burned down to obtain nails and other material to be used in the construction of the buildings of the first settlers of Montgomery County, in Dayton or its vicinity.

During the occupation of Fort Greenville by Wayne's army, it was visited by M. Volney, a Frenchman of considerable note in the closing years of the last century, author of the "Ruins of Empires" and some other publications, the perusal of which afforded gratification to men who scouted the Bible as a book of fables. This man, who could not believe the narrative of the deluge as given by Moses in the book of Genesis, was stuffed by the statement of some of Wayne's younger officers, who accompanied him on his trip to Greenville, as they passed the falls of Greenville Creek, some twelve miles below the fort, that the Ohio River, in times of great floods, backed the water of the Miami River and its tributaries until the water in the creek was raised to a level with the top of the falls. This yarn he gravely related as a fact in his book of "Notes of Travel in America," published after his return to Europe, thus demonstrating the truth of the apothegm "that in credulity, the unbeliever can go ahead of men of faith."

In 1799, 1800, 1801 and 1802, Israel and Stephen Ludlow, Daniel C. Cooper, David Nelson and Benjamin Chambers, and in 1805, Fulton, McKhann and McLene, with their assistants, engaged in the work of surveying the land for the United States, were the only white men who were at any time within Darke County, so far as any knowledge has come down to us. No doubt Indians trapped and hunted within its borders, but that rests only on conjecture, grounded on its probability.

Some time subsequent to the treaty of 1795—but the year cannot be ascertained, except that it was between 1796 and 1804—the Prophet, and his brother, the celebrated Tecumseh of the Shawnee tribe, emigrated from the Indian town of Upper Piqua, with a few families who adhered to them, and established a small Indian village above Greenville on the west side of Mud Creek; the site of this village is now within the farms of William F. Bishop and Joseph Bryson, and continued there until about 1811. The writer of these pages learned many years ago from the late Col. John Johnson, who, from the time of the elder Adams until the Presidency of Gen. Jackson, was agent on behalf of the United States for the Indian tribes of the Northwest Territory, that the Prophet and his adherents were driven off by his tribe, the Shawnees, on account of his and their bad character, that Black Hoof and the other Indians said that the Prophet was a bad man and a thief. This statement might well be believed without having any Indian's word for it. The writer in his time has seen and



known several thousand Indians, but is satisfied that he never beheld half a dozen of the "noble red men" who would not steal whenever and wherever they could have the opportunity, anything and everything they could lay their hands on, unless it might be a ship's anchor or a pair of millstones.

The character of the Prophet and his people was not in the least improved by their translation from Piqua to the Mud Creek town; they continued to steal as long as they remained there, and had they continued there until now would still have pursued the same high calling. A Frenchman, whose name cannot now be ascertained, built and occupied as a trading-house, on a small scale, a little log cabin on the west side of the creek, opposite the site of the burned fort, about the year 1805, but could not stand it very long; in the early part of the summer of 1806, the Prophet and his Indians had stolen his entire stock, powder, lead, flints, tobacco and whisky, and the poor frog-eater was "busted" and left.

#### FIRST SETTLEMENTS.

We come now to the period when what may be called the first settlement of the town and township of Greenville, may be said to commence. Late in 1806, or early in 1807, Azor Scribner, leaving his wife and probably two young children near Middletown, came with a small stock of Indian goods, including tobacco and whisky, and opened out in the Frenchman's deserted cabin. He did not bring his family from Middletown until 1808, but at what time of the year is not now known, his eldest daughter yet living here, and who was born before he came here, being then too young to remember the time of year that her mother, her sister and herself were brought here by her father.

It is now well understood that the first white man who, with a wife and children, emigrated to the county and settled in Greenville Township, was Samuel Boyd, who came in 1807 and built himself a cabin about two and a half miles north by east from the site of Fort Greenville, on the bank of a branch that yet goes by the name of Boyd's Creek. Boyd was a native of Maryland, had lived in Kentucky and was probably married there before he emigrated to Ohio, and had, as far as the writer has been able to learn, made a short stop of one or two years near the Miami, in Butler County, before emigrating to the wilderness that two years afterward created the county of Darke. Boyd lost his wife about 1816, and she was the first person buried in the old graveyard below the railroad bridge; the early settlers having previously used as a cemetery the lot on which the Catholic Church is erected. He died in 1829 or 1830; one of his daughters, the wife of John Carnahan, had died in 1821 or 1822, and another, the wife of Robert Martin, survived until about three years ago, and previous to her decease was for some years recognized at the "oldest inhabitant." Soon after Boyd came, Azor Scribner removed his family and, abandoning the cabin on the west side of the creek, occupied one of the buildings of the fort that had escaped the fire inside of the pickets. Scribner died in 1822; his widow in the early part of 1825 married a Yankee adventurer, who, in less than a year, deserted her, and the last ever heard of him he was in a Canada jail on a charge of treason, having been involved in McKenzie's rebellion, which occurred some forty years ago.

The next settler in the county, although not within Greenville Township, to which he afterward removed, was Abraham Studabaker, who settled on the south side of the creek below the bridge at Gettysburg. He came with his wife and one or two children in time to plant corn in the spring of 1808.

In the summer of 1808, John Devor purchased from the United States the half-section of land which had been the site of Fort Greenville, and in conjunction with his son-in-law, Robert Gray, laid out, partly within and partly without the old fort, what may be called the initial part of the present town of Greenville, to which a dozen or more additions have since been made. Their town plat was executed and acknowledged on the 14th day of August, 1808, and sent to Miami County,







which then included within its limits the whole of what is now Darke County, for record.

On the same day that Devor entered the town half-section, he also entered for his neighbor, John Bonner, of Montgomery County, a half-section some five miles down the creek below Greenville, and Maj. Murray, of Hamilton, entered the quarter-section on which Fort Jefferson had been built by St. Clair on his first starred campaign of 1791. Later in the year, Mr. Studabaker entered the tract on which he settled below Gettysburg. The patents for Bonner's and Studabaker's land were not issued for many years.

After the lapse of more than seventy years, it is a matter of considerable difficulty either to state the order in which emigrants arrived in the new settlement, or even anything that would specify all who did come. It is also, at this day, a matter of considerable uncertainty, if ascertained at all, to find out when what subsequently became, by legislative enactment, Darke County, was organized as a civil township of Miami County. This much is known, that the new settlement was re-enforced by the arrival, in 1808, of Thomas McGinnis and family from what was yet the new State of Tennessee, and Barnabas Burns, who was married to the mother of the wife of McGinnis, who was a native of either North or South Carolina, but emigrated to Ohio from Tennessee. Both became land-owners on the west side of Mud Creek, between Greenville and the Prophet's town, as the Indian village was called, to which allusion has been made in these pages. The same year, or early in 1809, came Enos Terry, afterward an Associate Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and entered the quarter-section northeast of the town, and laid off upon it another town plat, also called Greenville, that, subsequently to the creation of Darke County, was established as the county seat, but so continued for a brief period. The town site occupied about twenty or twenty-five acres in the northwest corner of the quarter-section. It was then the day of small things; no man ever built upon or dwelt within the limits of the town. Horatio G. Phillips, of Dayton, purchased two lots, for which he never received a title, but for which he received in lieu a deed in subsequent years of two lots in Devor and Gray's town, to purchase his acquiescence in the measures taken to remove the seat of justice of the county to the other town on the southeast side of the creek. In 1809, came William and Joseph Wilson, from the Little Miami, to which they had emigrated only a few years before, from Washington County, in Pennsylvania; both bought land settled north of Greenville, and, both being natives of the holy sod of "Old Ireland," the name of "Ireland" was given to, and for many years retained by, that part of Greenville Township where they were located. William Wilson was located on a quarter-section but half a mile north of the Devor purchase of the site of the old fort, and one mile north of his quarter was the quarter-section of his brother Joseph. Both men had families of children, some quite young and others grown up to manhood. William Wilson died in 1821, and his wife several years afterward. Joseph Wilson sold out in 1826, and, with his family, sons and daughters then grown up and married, emigrated to the West, somewhere, to "grow up with the country." Not very long after Devor and Gray had laid off the town of Greenville, probably within a year, Gray disposed of his interest in the newly laid-out town, and the residue of the half-section in which it was situated, to his aunt, Mrs. Rachel Armstrong, then a widow with four young children—the eldest not ten years old—who, with her family, removed to and settled in Greenville, about the close of 1809. Devor, the other proprietor, still continued to reside in the county of Montgomery. Mrs. Armstrong, with her nephew, William Devor, a son of the co-proprietor, who came and resided as a member of her family with her, both died of a disease called the "cold plague," in January, 1812. Mrs. Armstrong's children were then taken in charge by her relatives in Warren and Hamilton Counties; one of them, Samuel Armstrong, born in February, 1806, yet survives, unmarried and keeping bachelor's hall, at Walnut Hills, Hamilton County.



## FORMATION OF DARKE COUNTY.

The Legislature of Ohio, then in session at Zanesville, by their act of January 3, 1809, created the county of Darke out of territory previously forming a part of the county of Miami, and, within a year afterward, a commission appointed by the Legislature established the seat of justice of the newly formed county at Terry's, town of Greenville, north of the creek. This selection was procured, as it was soon afterward charged, by what fifty years later would have been denominated "cheenanigen," practiced on the Commissioners by Terry and old Billy Wilson, the first of whom it was alleged had promised each of the Commissioners a choice lot in the new county seat, and the other had added strong persuasions in the way of a liberal use of whisky and some ready money, so that even at that early day, the corruption of men occupying positions of trust was not deemed to be a myth or an impossibility. Whatever the facts may have been, no investigation was ever made, nor were any legal proofs ever offered, but the matter was subject of public talk and general suspicion.

And whilst speaking on this subject, it may as well be stated, that, by the enactment of the Legislature at the session of 1810-11, a new commission was created, to whom was confided the duty of relocating the seat of justice of the county. This commission, consisting of Messrs. Barbee and Gerard, of Miami County, and Lanier, of Preble, after considering the propositions of Terry, David Briggs, and Devor and Mrs. Armstrong, looking to the material benefits to the county, as proffered by the parties, accepted the proposition of Devor and Mrs. Armstrong, and selected as the future county seat the town laid out at Wayne's old fort, of Greenville.

The accepted proposition covenanted to donate to the county one-third of all the town lots then laid out, or that they or their heirs might thereafter lay out, on the adjoining lands in the west half of Section 35, in which their town plat was located.

Some years after, Mrs. Armstrong having died in the mean time, Devor, for himself, and on behalf of the heirs of Mrs. Armstrong, pursuant to the order of the Court of Common Pleas, executed their contract so far as the lots then laid off was concerned, by conveying to the Commissioners of Miami County, in trust for the county of Darke, when it should thereafter be organized, thirty-two of the ninety-six lots then laid out, but, although additional town lots on the adjacent land of the half-section have since been laid out by the heirs of Devor, and also by the heirs of Mrs. Armstrong, no further donation or conveyance has ever been made, nor have the Commissioners of Darke County ever demanded or required any further performance of their covenant.

After the creation of the county in 1809, a number of families emigrated to Greenville and its vicinity; some remained only for a short period, whilst others resided here until their decease, or until, in after years, the glowing accounts of a "better land," farther toward the setting sun, tempted them to seek their fortunes on the banks of the Wabash, St. Joseph, Illinois and Missouri, and in the prairies of Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska. The names of some of them are no longer remembered, and of all that had attained to manhood or womanhood, who came prior to the close of 1812, not one remains; all are gone, and even their descendants are as the forest leaves after the frosts and snows of winter have passed—lying in the ground, or blown away.

Among those who came between the spring of 1809 and the fall of 1810, the writer, at this distant day, can only name a part, and of that part were Moses Scott, from Southwestern Pennsylvania, who, with his son William, were afterward successive Sheriffs of Darke County, serving in the first, second and third regular terms of that office after the organization of the county; John Studabaker and Abraham Miller, brother and brother-in-law to Abraham Studabaker, who had settled down the creek some two years before: they were located on lands on the old







trace to Fort Jefferson, some two miles south of Greenville; Scott purchased a quarter-section, a half-mile south of the Devor purchase, that has for the last thirty years or more been the property of David Studabaker, and also purchased two lots adjoining the public square in Greenville, on which he erected a two-story log house, in which for the period of from twelve to fifteen years, he kept what in those days was regarded as an A No. 1 tavern, or inn, where the weary traveler could be regaled on corn bread, venison, coffee, tea or whisky, as might best suit his appetite or mitigate his hunger and thirst. Scott and what were left of his family migrated to Fort Wayne, Ind., in 1824. In the Indian troubles of 1812, he had his powder-horn shot away from his side; a number of years before, he had a narrow escape when engaged in the whisky insurrection in Western Pennsylvania, and his guests at the tavern in Greenville were always entertained by a recital of how he escaped powder and lead in Pennsylvania, as well as a detail of the powder-horn adventure in the prairie above Greenville. About the time of Scott's advent in Greenville, came Charles Sumption, commonly known as the "Wax-works," with a family, consisting of a wife, two sons and four daughters. His son George settled on what is now the Bishop Farm, on Mud Creek, which he sold in 1829, and went to the St. Joe country in Northwest Indiana. Charles ultimately settled up the creek, about six miles above Greenville, in Washington Township. One of the daughters married Benoni Overfield, and was long remembered by the traveling public as the first-class landlady of the Overfield Tavern in Troy. Another was married to Jesse Rush, who also migrated with George Sumption to the St. Joe, in 1829. Another daughter married a blackguard named Henry Lowe, who came here from Kentucky on the hunt of runaway negroes in 1812. The elder Sumption having buried his first wife and married a second, died near what is now known as Coletown in 1825.

Early in 1810, came from Pickaway Plains, below Circleville, on the Scioto, James Rush, Henry Rush, Andrew Rush and Henry Creviston, and settled the two first-named at and adjoining the Prophet's town, on Mud Creek. Andrew Rush on the West Branch, where it was crossed by what was known as the "Squaw Road" or Delaware Path. Creviston, after a year or two, and after his brother-in-law, Matthew Young, came out from Pickaway County, in conjunction with him purchased land northeast of Coletown, where he resided until 1825, when he went a few miles farther up the creek, and settled in Washington Township. On the organization of the county, in the winter of 1816-17, James Rush was chosen by the Legislature as one of the Associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, which office he held for fourteen years, being re-elected by the Legislature in 1824; at the expiration of his second term, Judge Rush with all his family—save one daughter who, in 1823, was married to the late John Deardorff—removed to Eel River, in Indiana.

Andrew Rush was murdered by the Indians in 1812, as will be elsewhere adverted to in these pages, and Henry Rush died in 1813, leaving a widow who was subsequently married to James Bryson, and four children, three sons and one daughter, of whom only his second son, Lemuel Rush, is now living, at the advanced age of about seventy-five years, about three and a half miles north of Greenville. With the Rush brothers, came their brother-in-law, John Hiller, and settled on the West Branch, adjoining Andrew Rush. After the outbreak of the Indian troubles, in 1812, and the murder of Andrew Rush, Hiller and his family left and went to the Miami, a mile or two above Piqua, where he remained until about 1816, when he returned to his farm on the West Branch, where he died in 1828, leaving a widow, five sons and three daughters, all of whom are now dead, the last, Aaron Hiller, Esq., having died some two years ago on his farm adjoining the land on which his father settled in 1810.

The emigration in 1811 was very slight, and of those who came scarcely any remained; but of those who found their way here, one name must not be omitted, Abraham Scribner, a brother of the Azor Scribner who has been previously



noticed, came to Greenville in the summer or early fall of 1811. He had previously been master of one or more vessels engaged in the navigation of the Hudson River, from New York to Troy, or in the coasting trade from Passamaquoddy to the capes of the Chesapeake, and, sometimes, as far south as Hatteras.

When he came to the county of Darke, he was about thirty years old. From exposure, while commander of a vessel a year or two before, he had nearly lost the sense of hearing, and this infirmity, in connection with some other peculiarities, made him a man singular and exceptional in his character and deportment.

Part of the time he spent in Greenville, in the family of Mrs. Armstrong, until her death in January, 1812, and part of the time in Montgomery County, in the family of John Devor, one of the proprietors of Greenville, whose daughter Rachel he married in 1814. What he engaged in to make for himself a living for a year or more after he came to this country, none now living knows; he appeared to be always busy, and yet no one could tell what he was doing or whether he was doing anything. Being at Dayton in the spring of 1813, he enlisted in Col. Dick Johnston's mounted regiment, and with it went to Upper Canada, where, in the fall of that year, he participated in the battle of the Fallen Timber, where Proctor was defeated and Tecumseh was killed. After being discharged from the service, about the time he married Miss Devor, and having entered the prairie quarter-section above the mouth of Mud Creek, now owned by Knox & Sater, he erected a log house upon it, and brought his wife from Montgomery County and went to housekeeping.

In about two years, Scribner sold his quarter-section, on which he had only paid his entrance money, \$80, to John Compton, of Dayton, for \$1,600, and took his pay in a stock of goods at retail price, and opened out a store.

In the summer of 1821, Scribner lost his first wife, and, after an interval of a few weeks, married a second wife, Miss Jane Ireland, of the vicinity of New Paris, who also died in the summer of 1822. After the death of his second wife, he sold out his stock of goods, and, having placed his children among friends, went to the Maumee, where he purchased land in Henry County, and fooled away his money in half clearing some land and having several thousand rails made, about which, five years afterward, Jake De Long wrote to him that "they were lying in the woods, and getting no better very fast." In a few months, he returned to Greenville and resumed the mercantile business, in which he continued the residue of his life. In January, 1825, he married his third wife. He died in March, 1847, in the sixty-sixth year of his age.

This much time and space has been devoted to Mr. Scribner, because, during ten or twelve years of his life, he was "the power" in the county; he was the autocrat and ruler of the Democratic party, and discharged all the functions of caucuses, primary elections and nominating conventions: those he allowed to run for office ran and were elected, and those he forbade had to keep shady and hold their peace. But at last he forked off from Jackson Democracy, although he would be "right side up" now among Democrats, for he was an uncompromising adherent to the resolutions of 1798—State rights and Calhounism. His last wife survives, after thirty-three years of widowhood, living with one of her sons in Western Indiana. The only survivor of the children of his first wife, Mrs. S. J. Arnold, lives in Greenville.

It may be as well here as elsewhere, to relate an occurrence which tended, in its consequences, greatly to retard the early settlement, not only of Greenville and Darke County, but various other towns and counties in Western Ohio and South-western Indiana. The mission of Tecumseh to stimulate the western and southern tribes of Indians to engage in a general war against the whites was generally known from the Lakes to New Orleans, but it was not so well known that his efforts had been in the main unsuccessful, and people were alarmed and excited. He had as yet, owing to the good sense of Little Turtle, Black Hoof and the Crane, failed to enlist the Miamis, Shawnees or Wyandots in what those







chiefs deemed a senseless and wild undertaking, that in the end would bring great calamity upon their tribes, when a witless freak of cruelty, cowardice and treachery backed his efforts and turned the scale.

A small stockade had been erected at Greenville, and was garrisoned by a few men under Capt. Wolverton and Lient. Fish. David Conner had a small trading-house in Greenville, where he dispensed blankets, calico, powder, lead, dints, tobacco, whisky, and other Indian necessities, to the "noble red men." A Miami Indian, with his squaw and their son, a boy of some thirteen or fourteen years, were coming from the northwest to Greenville for supplies, and in the evening encamped beside what was afterward known as Irwin's spring, within less than a mile of the town. A white man, who had traveled with them for some miles, came into town and made mention of the matter, and it became known in the garrison. Wolverton, who was a man of some sense, was absent, and Fish, who had no sense at all, was in command. Here was an opportunity to acquire a character for bravery at small cost, and it was not to be thrown away, and he laid his plans accordingly; and the old adage that "the greater the coward the more cruel the devil," was again to be verified.

At break of day the next morning, Fish, with three or four of his command, drew near the camp. The woman had risen, and was gathering wood for a fire to cook their morning meal, and was shot down. Her husband arose on the alarm, and was also instantly killed. The boy fled, but as he was crossing the point of the prairie, was shot at and wounded in the wrist; he escaped, and such was the rapidity with which he and his friends spread the news of this dastardly act, and such its effect upon the Indian mind, that, before 10 o'clock the next day, Fort Meigs, a hundred miles distant, was beleaguered by 2,000 raging savages. The tomahawk was raised by nearly all the Indian tribes of the Northwest, and from that time until after Harrison's victory over Tecumseh and Proctor at the Fallen Timber, the settlers on the frontier were only preserved from "the terror by night and the arrows that flieth by day" by the most unrelenting watchfulness.

On the 18th day of June, 1812, Congress declared war against Great Britain, and the little fort at Greenville, which had been built and garrisoned on Indian account, some months previous, became a permanent establishment, until the close of the war and declaration of peace, in 1815. Its garrison was usually composed of men gathered from the neighboring counties of Miami, Montgomery, Greene, Warren, Butler and Preble, as well as of some who came to Darke County to spy out the land, and stay, if they liked it. Among these men, but few names can now be recalled, and they would hardly be remembered, but from events with which they were connected, or because when the troubles were over, they remained as residents of the county. Among these, can be enumerated John and Samuel Loring, James Cloyd, David and Peter Studabaker (brothers of Abraham and John Studabaker, already mentioned), Jacob Miller (who for many years was known by the cognomen of "Proaps"), Joseph Gass, Asa Spencer, Thomas Briggs, David Riffle, Hezekiah and Lewis Phillips, and John Ellis. Some of these men were married, but for the time being had left their wives and children "below in the settlement," as the common phrase then was, and others, either during the war or at its close married in the vicinity. John Loring had entered a quarter-section adjoining Devor, as early as 1809, but had sold to John Stoner, who was killed by the Indians near the first crossing of Miller's Fork, on the trace to Lexington, in August, 1812, on the same day that Elliott was killed by the same enemies, on the same trace, about three or four miles nearer to Greenville, from which place both had been sent by the officer in charge of the garrison, with dispatches to Maj. Price, requesting re-enforcement to the small garrison, deemed necessary in consequence of the murder of Andrew Rush and two children of William Wilson, which had occurred only a day or two before. A considerable part of the Loring quarter-section is now part of the town of Greenville. Sam Loring brought his family to





Darke County after the war, and located on the quarter-section on which a portion of the village of Palestine is laid out. James Cloyd, at the return of peace, married a daughter of Andrew Noffsinger, and remained a resident of German Township, until his decease, some four or five years ago, at which time he was President of the Pioneer Association of Darke County. John Ellis was in St. Clair's army at the time of the defeat at Recovery, in 1791; was with Wayne from 1793 to 1796, and participated in the defense of Recovery, at the time of the Indian attack, and in the rout of the Indians at Rouge de Bout, in 1794; after the second treaty of Greenville, in August, 1814, he brought his family and settled at Castine, where he resided for a number of years, and subsequent to 1840, removed to Mercer County, near Recovery, where, after some years' residence, he died, at the age of over ninety. Ellis, in his youth, had been a prisoner with the Indians, and exhibited, ever after, through his long life, many Indian characteristics. David Studabaker was killed in the army, during the war of 1812. Peter Studabaker, between 1825 and 1830, removed to the Wabash, below Recovery, and some years later, farther down the river in Indiana, where his death occurred some twenty years since. The Phillips brothers, about 1816, located on Miller's Fork, near the south boundary of Darke County, where both died in their old age. Joseph Gass, who was a near relation of the compiler of the journal of Lewis and Clark's expedition to the mouth of the Columbia River, at the commencement of this century, married a daughter of William Wilson, resided in several localities in Greenville Township, until about 1833, when he left and went to Wisconsin; the last known of him, he was at Milwaukee, about forty years ago. Two of his daughters reside in Dayton, and are the only members of his family now known to be living. Asa Spencer married a daughter of Joseph Wilson, emigrated to the northwest about 1825, and in a brief period was followed by his father-in-law, with all his children, sons and daughters. The last known of Spencer and the Wilsons was some seven or eight years ago. A slander suit was then pending, between him and one of his brothers-in-law, and John Wilson was here to take the depositions of the old inhabitants, to establish the character and standing of Spencer in this community, fifty years before, as a hog-thief. David Riddle, after the war, purchased land on Stillwater, above where Beamsville now is, and removed there in 1814, and after the lapse of a few years, died there about 1820. Thomas Briggs married the Widow Wilson, relict of the William Wilson who was distinguished by the name of "Little Billy Wilson"; his uncle, William Wilson, the father of the children murdered by the Indians, being known as "Old Billy." His wife died between 1845 and 1850, and he followed her to the grave a year or two later. "Proaps" never married; he lived about, from "pillar to post," among relatives and friends, until he had attained more than his threescore and ten years, when he passed away at Pete Studabaker's, on the Wabash. These personal reminiscences might be greatly extended, and probably interest the reader, but they must be brought to a close. The writer of these pages was personally acquainted with most of those of whom he has written, and his recitals of the events narrated derived from them or his personal knowledge; is now in the "sear and yellow leaf" of age, and human memory fails to retain and be able to transmit, with any certainty, the persons and events of which memory alone, without the aid of pen or stone, and in the absence of all living, can now bear testimony.

Nothing has yet been said about what might be called the civil history of the town and township of Greenville, or the county of Darke.

The laying-out of the town of Greenville, as we have seen, occurred anterior to the creation of the county of Darke, and both events, so far as now known, preceded any organization of town, township or county, as a "body politic." At what period elections were first held for civil officers, might probably be ascertained from a search in the office of the Secretary of State, at the Capital, if they were not irretrievably lost in the removal of the seat of government from Zanesville to Chillicothe, when public records and documents disappeared, and in all





probability went down the flood of the Hocking into the Ohio, and thence, by way of the Ohio, past New Orleans, to the Gulf of Mexico.

The most ancient memorial relating to civil or criminal procedure is the judgment of Enos Terry, rendered as a Justice of the Peace, against a stray negro, who was arrested, arraigned and tried before him for stealing a brass watch from a soldier of the Greenville garrison, in 1812. On the conviction of the negro, a sentence was pronounced by Terry unknown to the books, and not set down or nominated in the statutes. The negro was required to submit to one of two penalties, at his own option. Either to bear the infliction of the Mosaic forty lashes, save one, or be stripped stark naked and climb a thorny honey locust before Terry's door. Abe Scribner, who was present when the trial came off and sentence was pronounced, made a lifelong enemy of Terry, by suggesting to him that his two daughters, one of whom afterward married John Mooney, and the other Bill Scott, that in case the negro took to thorns, should assist him up the locust.

Subsequently, John Purviance, David Briggs and Terry were Justices of the Peace of Greenville Township, which, as yet, was co-extensive with the entire county, no other divisions being made until after the organization of the county, pursuant to an act of the General Assembly of December 14, 1816. At a later period, Samuel McClure, who lived on Whitewater, and Jacob Carlaugh, who resided at Stillwater, were commissioned Justices.

To pursue the civil history of the township of Greenville whilst it embraced the entire county and remained as a mere appanage of Miami County, and to know who were trustees or constables, would but little interest the reader of these pages, and for that reason the further reference to that matter is omitted. But it may as well be stated here as elsewhere, that from the first setting-up of a civil polity in Greenville Township, when it was co-extensive with the county, until a county organization took place under the act of December, 1816, no dismemberment took place, and until a cutting-up under the authority created and set in motion by that act, it remained entire. On perfecting the new county organization, its dimensions were considerably reduced, and subsequent changes in its limits were made from time to time until 1828, since which time its boundaries have been unchanged.

After the defeat of Tecumseh and Proctor in the fall of 1813, the Indian allies of Great Britain were desirous for peace, as well as in want of other things, which they could only have by making peace, and overtures to that end from the hostile tribes were made to the representatives of the United States Government. The chiefs and head men were invited to a conference and council at Greenville, early in the spring of 1814; some of the tribes were tardy in responding to the invitation, being no doubt, to some considerable extent hindered and delayed through English influence, but about the middle or latter end of June some three or four thousand Indians, representing a number of the tribes, were encamped around Greenville and its vicinity. The United States was represented by Gen. Harrison and Cass, historic names in our annals, and the conference commenced. The negotiation, accelerated or delayed as outside influences prevailed, for even at that early day whisky and money were factors to be used, considered and disposed of, as the exigencies of statecraft required, was protracted for some weeks, until on the 20th of August, 1814, all differences were reconciled and the second treaty of Greenville was duly signed.

Since that day, no Indian war has troubled Ohio or Indiana, although in 1824, a cowardly and brutal murder of a family of Indians migrating from the State of New York to the West, by some white outlaws, in the vicinity of what were known as the Delaware towns, in Indiana, well-nigh occasioned an outbreak that might have equaled that to which Fish, by his brutal and cowardly conduct, gave rise twelve years before. David Comer, who but a few years before had established himself as an Indian trader, on the Mississinewa, near what was known



as "Llewellyn's," and who had an influence over the Miamis and Pottawatomies superior to their native chiefs, exerted himself to prevent the lifting of the tomahawk, and was successful. The murderers, two in number, whose names are now forgotten by the writer, but may be found in the criminal records of Madison County, in Indiana, were arrested, indicted, tried, convicted and hanged. Conner, by his efficiency in securing justice, and his wise counsels preventing war, so won the good will and esteem of the Indians of the Miami tribe, that in solemn council he was made a chief of the tribe and with all proper rites and ceremonies duly inaugurated and installed into his office. It may not here be amiss to relate an incident of Conner's life that occurred some years previous. He had established himself as an Indian trader at Recovery, very soon after the execution of the treaty of 1814, and in effecting that treaty his influence with the Indians had been exerted, and by his exertions he had made some enemies amongst not only white men but Indians. One evening, several of the latter waited upon him at his trading-house, and deliberately notified him that the object of their visit was to take his life. He by his answer to them apparently acquiesced, but asked a few minutes' respite to put things in order so that others might not suffer loss by his taking-off. This was granted, and they took their seats to enable him to properly fix up things. He deliberately spread a deerskin on the floor and emptied a keg of powder on it; and while they wondered what he would do next, he sprang to the fire and seized a brand and swore in good strong Miami that he and they would all go to hell together. The Indians stood not upon the order of their going, but went in what was unusual to an Indian, "very much hurry." In speaking of the matter afterward, one of the Indians who took part in the transaction told the writer that "Conner one devil of a man, he care no more for an Indian than he did for himself." He was never again molested by them. It may as well be stated here that Conner came to Greenville late in 1811 or early in 1812, and opened a small store and trading-house; and with him came David Thompson and purchased and settled upon the quarter-section south of Greenville, where David Studabaker now resides. Thompson had been a soldier in Wayne's army at Greenville, and with him at Rouge de Bout; he remained a resident of the county until his decease, about 1840, when he had attained the age of more than eighty years; his wife died a few years later, and his oldest daughter, the widow of the late Judge Beers, his only surviving child of eight—four sons and four daughters—resides about a mile north of the town, and has attained an age of about eighty years.

There was in attendance at Greenville during the time of the negotiations preceding the treaty and until it was signed, a large concourse of white men as well as Indians. Men were here from Cincinnati, Dayton, Hamilton, Chillicothe, and various other places in Ohio; Maysville, Lexington, Frankfort, and other places in Kentucky; from points on the Ohio River, and even from Maryland and Pennsylvania. Many of these came to look at the country with a view to a settlement in it if they were pleased with it, and the Indian question so settled that they could emigrate to it and be freed from Indian disturbances; others to look out lands that it would be safe to buy as an investment of their surplus money; others to see what was to be seen, and make money if they could out of either Indians or white men as opportunity should offer, and many came with no defined object. Between the time of the treaty and the opening of the year 1816, many entries of land in Darke County were made at the Land Office in Cincinnati. The lands were sold by the Government on a credit of one-eighth down and the residue in seven annual installments. A number of tracts in the vicinity of Greenville were taken up on speculation that did not change hands for many years, and were kept unimproved. Among those who thus purchased, and probably never again saw the lands they bought, were Gen. James Taylor, of Newport; Gen. James Butler, of Frankfort, Ky.; George P. Torrence, David K. Este, David Wade and William Burke, of Cincinnati; Nathan Richardson, of Warren County; Joseph







Hough, of Chillicothe; Talbot Iddings, Andrew Hood and John Devor, of Montgomery County, and some others, whose purchases many of them long remained an eyesore, withheld from improvement, in the vicinity of Greenville. Many of these tracts, none of which were less than a quarter-section, remained in first hands from twenty to forty years, brought in the end but little more than the purchase money and interest to those who had purchased them, and added proof, if proof were necessary, that the well-being and progress of society in this nation demands that the title of the soil, vested in the National Government or the States, should not be transferred save to actual settlers.

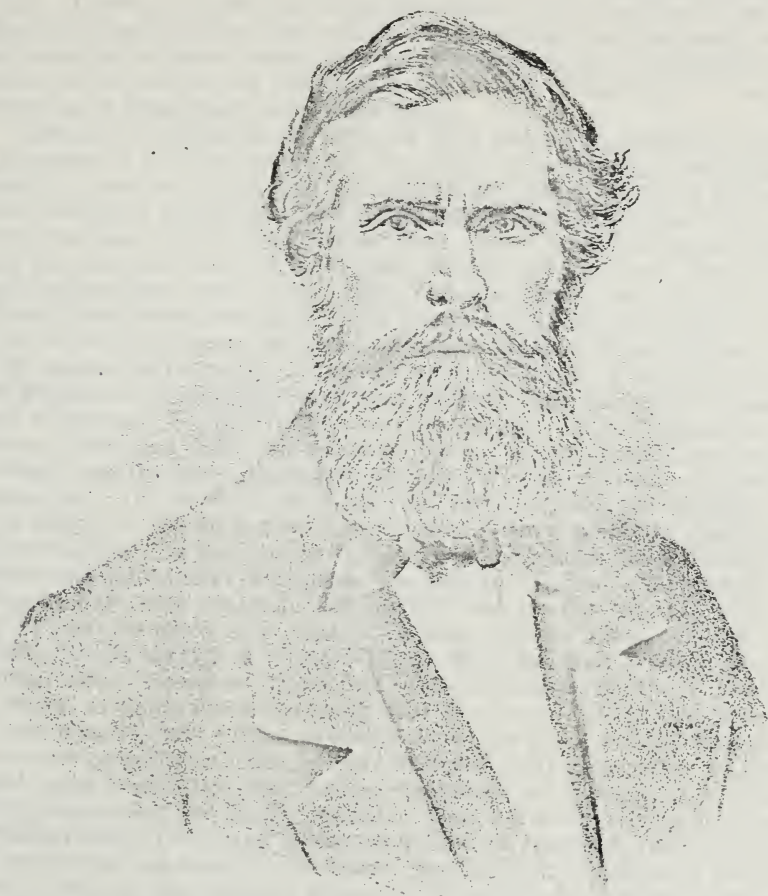
Many other purchases were made on credit, by men who failed to pay out, and were compelled in the end to relinquish part to save the residue, or entirely forfeit their purchases. The United States was, in the end, under the pressure of the debt entailed by the war of 1812 and other causes, compelled to abandon the system of selling the national demand upon credit.

Congress, however, in a year or two after the forfeiture, authorized the issue of what was termed land scrip, to those who had lost their purchases, equal in amount to what they had paid, which, being receivable at any Government land office in payment for the lands of the United States, became for some years a part in some measure of the business currency of the country, as the scrip could pass from hand to hand until it was canceled at the land office.

The emigration to the town, township and county, from the time of the "stampede" on the breaking-out of the Indian troubles, and until after the treaties between the United States and both the Indians and England, was scarcely noticeable. Although many people came here, they did not come to stay, and were here for transient purposes only, and the population of the town, township and county, after the departure of the crowd who were here at the treaty, and after the withdrawal of the garrison at Greenville and from the other small stockades erected for protection in the evil days at Fort Nesbitt, Fort Black and Fort Briar, was little, if any, greater than in the spring of 1812.

It may not be amiss here to recapitulate, as well as can now be done, who were as residents within the limits of the township of Greenville after the treaty was signed in 1814, and by the term limits of the township confine the enumeration to the bounds of what is now Greenville Township, and not, as then, the whole county of Darke. In the town were Moses Scott, Azor Scribner, David Connor and John Loring, and the wife of the murdered John Stoner and his orphaned children. With these, as boarders or employees off and on, were Abraham Scribner, James Cloyd, Philder G. Lanham, Silas Acheson, and probably some others, whose residence cannot be definitely stated. North of the town, in Ireland, dwelt Enos Terry, Joe Wilson, Old Billy Wilson, Little Billy Wilson, Asa Spencer, and in their families as dependents and hangers-on, John Mooney, Joe Gass, and probably others not now remembered. Down the creek, below the town, and within a mile of it, was David Briggs, with whom resided his brother Thomas. Up Greenville Creek, Aaron and Matthias Dean had commenced the erection of the mill in many years afterward designated Dean's Mill, but, on the murder of Rush, the work ceased, and they left for the Miami, near Middletown, and did not return and complete it until after the war. Up Mud Creek, on the west side, were Thomas McGinnis, Barney Burns, Henry and James Rush. The widow of Andrew Rush, with her two children, the oldest of whom was born November 28, 1809, lived on the West Branch where it was crossed by the "Squaw Road." David Miles was on the knoll where Mr. Griffin now resides, about half a mile southwest of the mouth of Mud Creek. On the east side of Mud Creek were Abraham Miller and John Studabaker, and just above the last, but outside the present township boundary, Zadok Reagan had located in the edge of the prairie, at what was known in after years as the "Burnt Cabin." On Bridge Creek were David Thompson and George Freshour. Charles Sumption, the "waxworks," lived in divers places, sometimes in Greenville, others on Bridge





*J. R. Holland*

BROWN, T.P.





Creek and on Mud Creek. He moved so often that his locality at any given date, after the lapse of nearly seventy years, cannot be stated with certainty. In his family at times were found Overfield and Low, who became his sons-in-law, and it may as well be stated here as elsewhere, that the marriage of one of Sumption's family—either his son Charles to a daughter of Mrs. Barney Burns, or one of his girls, Jemima or Sarah, who previous to the treaty became the wives of Overfield and Low—was, in all probability, the first rite of that character solemnized in the county. There may have been others than those named resident in the township at that early day, but the writer, who in his early years was personally acquainted with nearly all of them, cannot now speak with certainty, nor depend upon the accuracy of his memory of their statements to him, of the dates of their removal to the locality from which now all are gone.

Between the signing of the treaty of 1814 and the organization of the county in the spring of 1817, under the law of the preceding winter, the emigration to the township, as well as to the residue of the county, taking into view the sorry prospect of making a living in it, had increased the population more than threefold. In these two and a half years, George, Peter, John, Moses and Aaron Rush, brothers of the three who came in 1810, Henry Hardy and Archibald Bryson, who had married their sisters, came to the county; James Bryson, who married the widow of Henry Rush, came, and John Hiller returned from Miami County, to which he had fled three years before on Indian account. Some of these parties settled outside of Greenville Township, and others remained but for a brief period. On the West Branch and Greenville Creek were settled John McFarland, Daniel Potter, David Williamson, Joseph Huffinan and Isaac Dunn. With Williamson came his brothers, James and John, who remained but for a brief period; one went to Butler County, and the other returned to his father's house in Greene County to die of consumption. On the south of Greenville, between town and Abraham Miller's, Henry House, an old soldier of Wayne's army, with a family of sons and daughters, was located. In the southeast, was located on Bridge Creek Nathan Popejoy; between him and David Thompson was settled William Arnold, and south of Thompson, now came Abraham Studabaker from his first location below Gettysburg. Down the creek were located William, George, Jacob, Andrew and Joel Westfall, on the north side; and William Hays, Sr., and William Hays, Jr., on the south side. Ebenezer Byram first settled up Greenville Creek above Dean's mill, which, on their return, was completed in a year or about that after the war, but soon removed out of the township down the creek to New Harrison, as his place is now termed, but which had no existence until years after his death. To Ireland came David Douglass, James Stephenson, or Stinson, as the name was usually pronounced, and Robert Barnett. Over the creek, on the Recovery trace, was located David Irwin, and southwest of him, on the creek, David Ullery. East of Terry's place was located Alexander Smith, the first temporary Sheriff of the county, Justice of the Peace of Greenville Township for several years, and once, for a few days, owing to the non-receipt of election returns from some locality between Greenville and Maumee Bay, had a seat in the State Legislature, from which he was ejected on a contest with the far-famed Capt. Riley, who, a few years previous, had been a prisoner riding a camel from Timbuctoo to Mogadore across the desert of Sahara, in Africa. Smith was afterward a candidate for the Lower House of the State Legislature, but was defeated by Gen. James Mills. Riley also again was before the people of the district, which then included nine or ten counties of Northwest Ohio, for a seat in the House of Representatives, but failed. Subsequently, becoming more ambitious, he ran for Congress, but was badly beaten by William McLean, a brother of the late Judge McLean, of the United States Supreme Court. Archibald Bryson settled on the east side of the West Branch, above and south of the Squaw road, and east of him, toward Mud Creek, were located John Whitacre, John Embree, who was better known by the nickname of "Swift," and David Marsh, the first peddler of "wall-sweep" clocks in the county.



The lots in the town of Greenville were yet the joint property, so far as the legal title was concerned, of John Devor and the heirs of the deceased Mrs. Armstrong; prior to her death, contracts for several of them had been made with parties who had paid for and were now living on them, but as yet had no paper title. Devor, soon after the treaty, moved up to Greenville from Montgomery County; he had now purchased two additional sections, twelve hundred and eighty acres or more of land, part near to, and other portions more remote from, Greenville, and for the advancement of the town it was necessary not only to perfect to the purchasers the title of the lots already bargained, but to dispose of the residue, as well as secure to the county the title of the one-third given as an inducement to secure the location of the county seat. Legal proceedings to accomplish the desired ends were instituted in the Court of Common Pleas of Miami County, to which Darke, not yet organized, was attached. Under these proceedings the selection of the lots for Darke County was made, decrees for title of those contracted away taken, and the proper conveyances executed and an appraisal of the residue of the lots, as well as adjacent lands of the half-section, was made, and a sale by the Sheriff of Miami County ordered. A public sale by the Sheriff was had at Greenville on the 11th day of June, 1816, when more than fifty lots were sold to purchasers on the usual terms of partition sales, part cash and part in deferred installments. One tract of the adjoining land was sold, but the residue, some two hundred acres, was bid in by Devor to prevent what he considered a sacrifice, and some years afterward became the subject of another suit in partition in the court of Darke County.

It may be as well here to take note of who in the period between the treaty and the county organization, had come to Greenville, and what was going on.

Devor, as already stated, had moved up, and with him came four sons and three daughters; one daughter, married to Scribner had preceded his removal, and two others, one the widow of Robert Gray, were soon after married, the widow, Jane Gray, to Linus Bascom, and the other, Elizabeth, to David Irwin; his remaining daughter, Mary Devor, died unmarried in 1820; John Devor died in July, 1828, and his aged widow some five or six years afterward; all his children save one, Thomas Devor, a resident of Jay County, Ind., are dead years since. Bascom had come here after the treaty, and with him Solomon Hamer, who, as partners, had a little store or trading ranch. The partnership was dissolved in ill-blood in a short time, each party charging the other with unfairness. Hamer left, and the last known of him Jack Douglass heard him preach in New Orleans; he recognized Jack in the crowd of hearers, and as soon as the benediction was pronounced, made his way to him, and taking him aside begged him to keep shady, as he, Hamer, was doing a d—d fine business. In addition to the little stores of Connor, Scribner and Bascom & Hamer, Horatio G. Phillips, of Dayton, sent Eastin Morris to Greenville with a small stock of goods, about the close of 1815. Morris was not a success as a merchant, but afterward, in 1818, became Clerk of the Court, which position he held for ten years. On Scribner's emigration to the Maumee in 1822, the positions of County Recorder and Postmaster resigned by him fell to the hands of Morris. These several positions he held until about the close of the year 1828, when he resigned them all and went to Gallatin in Sumner County, Tenn., and engaged in the practice of law, and about 1840 removed to Burlington, Iowa, where he died in 1865 or 1866. After the treaty, Andrew Hood bought the quarter-section adjoining the town on the west, which included some fifteen acres east of Mud Creek and Greenville Creek, built a two-story log house about half-way between Mud Creek bridge and the old ford, and started his sons Robert and William in the mercantile business in a small way. Some years later they emigrated to Fort Wayne.

Bascom, after his marriage, built a two-story log house at the northwest side of the public square and commenced keeping a tavern, dividing the business and drawing some of the custom from Moses Scott and Azor Scribner. A man by the







name, real or assumed, of Daniel Routsong, came here, married Susie Creviston and sank some vats just outside the pickets of the fort, about twenty rods above Mud Creek bridge. In a few weeks, it leaked out that he had a wife and children in Maryland. As soon as he was apprised that the fact was known, being certain if he escaped the penitentiary Henry Creviston would shoot him, he fled the country. Near the same time, John and James Williamson started a similar enterprise over the creek, about a hundred yards west of Porter's tannery. Neither tanyard ever amounted to "shucks." It cannot now be asserted that a side of leather was ever made at either, and not five persons in the county remember that they ever existed. Not far from this period came William Sipe from Greene County, and put up a kiln near the east corner of the town plat and started a pottery; he also followed shoemaking a little, and hunting a great deal; in the latter employment he was not a success, for Dick Lyons put a spell on his gun that prevented him from killing anything he shot at for several years, until Dick himself was "flabbergasted" by shooting a calf instead of a deer, when fire-hunting at night on the creek below the town. During the period between the treaty and the organization of the county, a number of unmarried men came to Greenville to grow up with the country, of whom as yet no mention has been made; and some of them in after years became factors in making up the current history of the county. Among these were John and James Craig, John Armstrong, Henry D. and Robert N. Williams, David Buchanan, James Perry and some others. On the day succeeding the sale of the town lots by the Sheriff, came John Beers, and near the same time, John Talbot and Dr. Stephen Perrine, the first regularly educated physician who located in the place, followed shortly after by Dr. John Briggs, who for many years was a safe and successful practitioner. Beside these were two quacks, one a so-called Doctor Hopkins who went in on the "root and yarb" principles, who after swindling a number of credulous people, some of whom he had doctored from bad to worse, and others had lent him money, in a short time, with his boneset, mullein and dog-fennel, departed hence and was not again heard of; the other, a Jacob Myers, an itinerant vender of a specific which he carried about in a gallon jug, and issued to the ignorant as a preventive or remedy for the "fever 'n ager." A few years later, he narrowly escaped the gallows in Mercer County, for killing a patient with a decoction of buckeyes and white-walnut bark, administered as a cure for the chills.

In regard to the conveniences and necessities of the community it may as well be stated here that Terry, in 1810, erected a little corn-cracker of a mill at the bend of the creek above the "Dutch Bridge." During the war, the soldiers in the garrison destroyed the mill dam as a cause of disease, under the pretext of military necessity, and it was never rebuilt. After the war, Deans completed their mill, begun three or more years before, and John Devor erected a saw-mill half a mile south of it on the West Branch, at what is now the site of Fox & Bechtold's woolen-mill. Other improvements, save the clearing of land and erection of log houses, and stables, and cribs, and the occasional bridging of a mud-hole on the old traces of St. Clair and Wayne and the Indian paths by corduroys, there were none. The only modes of travel were on foot or on horseback, as nothing on wheels could get over the the roads nine months of the year.

The organization of the county, under the act of December 14, 1816, may in some particulars be said to have a place in the annals of the town and township of Greenville, and of some of those particulars only will mention here be made. The same General Assembly that passed that act elected Joseph H. Crane President Judge of the First Judicial Circuit, a position for which he was eminently fitted, and worthily adorned until his election to Congress in October, 1828; and also elected John Purviance, Enos Terry and James Rush Associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Darke County. The appointment of Clerk of that Court, and of the County Recorder, devolved upon the Court. It was intended that Beers should be chosen to the first of these positions, but he wanted a few weeks' residence



of the prescribed time to render him eligible, and Linus Bascom was chosen as Clerk pro tem., until a subsequent term, and before that subsequent term intervened Beers had "lost his grip" and Eastin Morris was duly chosen to that office for the term of seven years. The Associate Judges had met in special term to appoint a County Recorder. There were two candidates, James Montgomery and Abraham Scribner. Montgomery was a fair penman, and Scribner's chirography was, in after years, aptly compared, by David Morris, to a furrow drawn by a shovel plow through a newly cleared field of beech land. The Judges were at a stand, and appointed a committee of two to report to an adjourned session on the qualifications of the candidates. Neither member of the committee could have claimed "benefit of clergy," if his neck had been in jeopardy, for neither could read nor write a word. Scribner made so much sport of the appointment, that at the adjourned session, the Court, to stop his mouth, gave him the appointment, which he held until his resignation in 1822, and, during his whole term, not a single word was ever written by him in the books of his office, the entire clerical labor was performed by Dr. Briggs and Eastin Morris. The Board of County Commissioners selected Beers as their Clerk, which position he held until the Legislature created the office of County Auditor in 1820 or 1821. It may as well be stated here that in 1829, upon the death of David Morris, Beers obtained the office of Clerk, which he held until 1850, when he was chosen President Judge of the First Circuit, which he held until he was superseded under the new dispensation brought in by the constitution of 1851. He also held for a number of years the position of Prosecuting Attorney and Justice of the Peace. He was a sound and able lawyer, regarded as an oracle in legal matters by all his acquaintance, yet he never appeared to advantage as an advocate before a jury, nor in an argument to a court. His decease occurred about 1865.

Soon after the organization of the county, the Commissioners took measures for the erection of a jail, and one of a very humble character was erected on the north part of the public square, not more than thirty feet from the north corner of the city hall. It was constructed with two apartments each about fifteen feet square, the outside walls made of two thicknesses of sound oak timber, hewed one foot square, set on a double platform on the ground, of the same material, and overlaid by another of the same character upon which the roof was raised; the apartments were separated by a partition similar to the walls. To one apartment was a door, and one window about two feet square; in the partition was another door leading to the other apartment, which had no other opening, either door or window. When it had inmates in cold weather, the outer room was warmed by a kettle of charcoal, the fumes of which escaped through the window and crevices between the logs of the walls and ceiling.

One of the timbers forming the floor was once cut in two, being severed by an auger furnished to a prisoner through the window by a friend outside, the piece thus cut off was pushed from under the wall, and the party confined escaped. The piece of timber was replaced and fastened, but some years later was by a prisoner loosened and removed, but in endeavoring to escape, he got wedged fast in the opening, and could neither get out nor get back. The Sheriff found him in the morning, and with some effort released him from what was close confinement. This structure was burned down by an incendiary on the morning of Sunday, May 2, 1827. It was erected by Matthias Dean at a cost of about \$200 in county orders that would then bring only about 60 per cent of their face in money. In 1827-28, a new structure for a jail and jailer's residence of brick was erected on the corner occupied by the new building of Matchett, Wilson & Hart. This was a less secure building than the old log jail. Very shortly after it was completed, a noted thief named Jonathan Bayles, who had been committed for horse-stealing, got out of it so mysteriously, that the jailer, William Rush, was indicted and tried for aiding his escape; the jury before whom he was on trial, after the case was left to them, deliberated for sixty hours without meat or drink (it was not then allowed to feed







a jury at the expense of the county). and being unable to agree, were with the assent of the defendant discharged, and before another term came on, the statement of Bayles, who had been arrested and committed at Fort Wayne for other offenses, explained the manner of his escape, and so completely satisfied every one that Rush had no hand in it, that the Prosecuting Attorney entered a nolle. It may as well be stated here, that this second jail was demolished about 1840, on the erection of another on the southeastern part of the same lot, that is now superseded by the fourth jail of Darke County. About a year after letting the contract for the first jail, John and James Craig erected the first court house of the county, a frame structure of two stories, about 22x28 feet, the upper story which was reached by a stairway from the court room which occupied all of the lower story, was divided into a clerk's office and jury room. If two juries were in deliberation at once, as was sometimes the case, the second was sent to some private house. This building was erected on the south part of the public square, diagonally across Broadway and Main street from the old log jail. In it, courts were held until the summer of 1834, when it was removed, and with alterations and additions, was converted first into a dwelling-house, and lastly to a whisky saloon on Third street, southwest of and next to Odd Fellows' Hall. The second court house built by James Craig, who has been named as one of the builders of the first, was located in the center of the public square. Craig took the contract at so low a figure, that he lost from \$1,500 to \$2,000 in his undertaking. On the erection of the present court house, the second one was demolished to make room for the city hall, a building that neither for convenience, nor as an ornament, is any improvement upon the old structure. It may also in this connection be noted that no place of business was provided for any county officer, save the Clerk, until the erection of the second court house, and in that for only a part of them. The Auditor, Recorder, Treasurer, Tax Collector and Sheriff had each to furnish his own quarters, at his own expense. The Commissioners first quartered themselves on their Clerk, afterward, when the office of Auditor was provided for, on him. It may further be stated here, that from 1822 to 1826, the position of Collector of the Taxes was sold at public auction to the highest bidder. This statement requires an explanation. County orders were at a discount in these years of from  $37\frac{1}{2}$  to  $42\frac{1}{2}$  per cent; the treasury being generally without funds, they could alone be passed at their face to the Collector in payment of the county taxes levied on chattel property; for the land tax denominated the State tax, cash or coined money, or what was its equivalent, notes of the bank of the United States, was required; yet in the annual settlement, a proportion of the land tax was set off to the county, and this proportion the Collector could discharge by turning over to the County Treasurer the orders at their face value which he had bought at 35 to 65 cents on the dollar. This chance of making a little money enabled the Collector to give a bonus for the office. For several years, county orders were a special currency of inferior value, as about the same time, the Bank of the Commonwealth in the State of Kentucky. If you wanted to buy a horse or a cow, ten bushels of wheat or forty acres of land, the price was named as so much in cash, or a different value in county orders.

In 1823, this state of things opened the door for a transaction that gave rise to much excitement, ill blood, and evil speaking, that for several years laid on the shelf a hitherto popular man, then in place as a public officer, although in after years he was acquitted by the people of blame in the matter, save negligence of duty, the fraud mixed up with it being laid to other account.

On the annual settlement with the County Treasurer, the county orders redeemed by him were delivered to the Commissioners and Auditor, and he was credited therefor, and the law then required that they should be burned in the presence of those officials. No schedule of their number, amount or payee was made or kept, but only the aggregate to be inserted in the credit to the Treasurer; at the settlement of the year mentioned, when the bundle of orders were turned



over there was no fire handy to carry out the behest of the law, and friction matches had not yet been seen or known. The bundle was left in the Auditor's care, who was to fulfil the omitted duty when he had a fire or lighted candle in his office, and nothing more was thought of it. Some months afterward, several of these orders, distinctly remembered by Treasurer, Collector and Commissioners to be of those previously redeemed, were found in circulation. How they again got out was never definitely proved or known, nor was it ever ascertained what amount had been thus fraudulently re-issued. No accurate investigation ever took place, for the system of keeping books then in vogue in Darke County afforded no means of making an accurate investigation. Some of the orders were tracked very near, but not quite to the Auditor. That officer was many years later placed in a position of trust, in which his securities paid heavily for his default; his name is omitted, and the matter, only remembered after the lapse of nearly threescore years by less than a dozen persons now living, is only adverted to here, because in the ensuing session of the General Assembly, it gave rise to an enactment, ever since in force, that on the redemption of a county order, the Treasurer should either plainly write or print across the face of it the word "redeemed," with the date of its redemption, and subscribe to the statement his name officially. It may as well be further stated here, that one of those sureties by reason of public sympathy for his loss, was some years after chosen to the same position of trust to which his business attainments was not equal, and he had to entrust his duties to subordinates whose rascality in turn made him a public defaulter, and he was sued on his bond. It is not an agreeable duty to the writer to narrate some of these occurrences, but truth requires that history record facts, even if they are unpleasant.

In the succeeding pages of the division of this work allotted to the writer, he must confine himself to the duty before him—the progress of the town and township of Greenville, and in that he must confine himself to narrower limits, and in those limits come to a system and classification.

At the head of what are called the liberal and learned professions, leaving out the clerical, of which but little need be said, stands the law and legal. When courts that ranked above Justices of the Peace were first held in the county, Beers was a law student under the tuition of Gen. William M. Smith, of Dayton, and was admitted to the bar by the Supreme Court within two years after the organization of the county, and, with the exception of Increase Graves, who was only here for a few months in 1820 or 1821, and then went to the North, was the only member of the legal fraternity resident in the county until he was appointed Clerk, in the year 1829. Of him, mention has been previously made, save that he once was a candidate for Congress against John B. Weller, and was defeated. During the twelve years from 1817 to 1829, attorneys from Eaton, Dayton, Troy, and, on some few occasions, from Hamilton, Lebanon, Springfield and Urbana, traveled the circuit with Judge Crane, and had more or less business in the courts at Greenville. Late in 1829 or early in 1830, Hiram Bell, who had studied under John Woods, of Hamilton, located in Greenville, and soon, by his industry, secured a fair practice. In 1833, he was elected County Auditor; some years later, he was elected to the Lower Branch of the Legislature, in which he served two terms, being once re-elected. At a yet later date, he was elected a Representative in Congress. In 1835, William M. Wilson, also from Hamilton, came to Greenville, and secured a fair proportion of business in his profession. He was elected to the office of Prosecuting Attorney, and, subsequently, to the office of County Auditor, which he held for several years, until he vacated it for a seat in the Ohio Senate.

Bell, who in the contest for Senator was defeated by Wilson, and in a brief period defeated Wilson in the Whig nomination for Congress, died late in December, 1855, and his widow, at a late period, was married to Wilson, who had in the mean time lost his wife, a daughter of Maj. Dorsey, to whom he was married in September, 1837. He attained, by executive appointment, the position of Judge







of the Common Pleas of this subdivision of the Court of Common Pleas, which office he filled with ability and dignity for the period of about two years. Subsequently, in the summer of 1865, his second wife died, and in a week he followed her to the grave. Bell left no descendants; Wilson, by his first wife, had a family of one son and several daughters, who yet survive him. In 1837, near its close, or in 1838, not far from its beginning, came Cyrus F. Dempsey, from Southern Ohio, near Portsmouth, who had but recently been admitted to the bar, and hung out his shingle. He, unlike Beers, Bell and Wilson, who were then "simon-pure Whigs," was a professed Democrat. He obtained the position of Prosecuting Attorney, and had a reasonably fair share of legal practice; but he was ambitious of attaining a higher position, and sought to attain it by means that his Democratic brethren considered "not on the square." In a solemn conclave of priests and elders of that tribe, he was, with all due ceremony and the rites of "bell, book and candle," excommunicated from communion with the faithful, and cast out. In a short time after, he left for Fort Wayne, or some place near it, where he soon after died.

This brings us down to the close of 1840, and here we might stay our hand; but "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth" may as well be spoken, and that requires a statement that, in the later years, chiefly since the incoming of the new constitution, there has come up over the land a swarm of lawyers, like the frogs out of the river of Egypt in the day of Moses, that penetrate into the kitchens, closets and bedchambers, and, with a few honorable exceptions, are found at marriages in search of divorce cases, and at funerals, hunting partition suits, button-holing clients at market, church and cemetery, "instant in season and out of season," kicking for a job, forcing the conviction upon all who bestow thought upon the matter, of the necessity in this country of institutions like the Brotherhoods of Gray's Inn and Lincoln's Inn, and the Inner Temple and the Middle Temple.

In the medical profession, mention has already been made of Drs. Perrine and Briggs. In 1828, came Dr. Andrew O'Ferrell, from Kentucky, who died in the winter of 1829-30, and later came Dr. James H. Buell, from Eaton, who remained but for a short period. In the winter of 1830-31, Dr. J. M. P. Baskerville, who for some years was engaged in his profession at Greenville; later he went to Versailles. He was a native of Virginia; came here from the vicinity of London, Madison Co., Ohio, to which locality, after several years, he returned, and at which place a few years since he died. About 1834-35, Dr. I. N. Gard came here from Jacksonburg, in Butler County, and engaged in practice, in which he yet, at the age of threescore years and ten, is engaged. Dr. Gard has been, in former years, honored with a seat in the Ohio Senate, and in later years a member of the Board of Trustees of the Southern Ohio Lunatic Asylum, and of other boards of State charities, in all of which positions he has been a faithful and intelligent public servant. He is now the senior in the medical profession in the county. About a year, more or less, after the advent of Dr. Gard, came Dr. Alfred Ayers, also from Butler County. For a time he was a partner of Dr. Gard. In 1838, he married a daughter of the late Judge Beers, who bore to him several children, sons and daughters. Some years ago, on the decease of his father, he returned to the paternal homestead in Butler County, where, after the decease of his wife and eldest daughter, he also, about two years ago, was laid in the narrow house, at the age of about sixty-eight years. In the interval between 1820 and 1840, the town and neighborhood had, at various times, divers and sundry "physical doctors" of the stripe of Hopkins and Myers; but they were ephemeral, like Jonah's gourd—came up, were bitten by a worm at night, and perished in the heat of the next day. Their names and doings it is unnecessary to record.

The writer would here in this connection mention that in the summer and fall of each of the years 1821 and 1822, the town, as well as the adjacent country, was visited with severe and fatal sickness, of malarial origin, and almost epidemic in



its character. Many died of both sexes and of all ages, but the mortality was greatest among those of middle age, both men and women. Again, in the summer and fall of 1829 and 1830, the town, township and county was scourged with a disease, denominated, in common phrase, flux. The mortality was great, chiefly among children, although persons of all ages became victims. In each of these visitations, the medical force of the county being inadequate to the requirements taxing it, physicians were sent for and responded to the calls from Richmond, New Paris, Eaton, Lewisburg, Milton, Troy and Piqua, in the adjacent counties of Wayne, Ind., and Preble and Miami, Ohio. In 1833, when so many localities in the United States were desolated by the cholera, but two deaths from that disease occurred within Darke County, neither of which was in Greenville.

It may be deemed that the next matter that should engage the attention of the narrator should be the educational department of the community of which he is relating the history. John Beers, John Talbot and Henry D. Williams were each of them "schoolmasters" in Greenville and its vicinity during a few years subsequent to their emigration to Greenville; whether a school of any sort was taught, prior to their arrival, in the town or township, is now, after the lapse of more than sixty years, a matter unascertainable. Talbot, an offshoot of the old Earls of Shrewsbury, ennobled in the fifteenth century in the person of the antagonist of the Maid of Orleans, sometimes taught a country school, and sometimes fulfilled the duties of the office of Constable of Greenville Township. He was fond of his bottle, which he kept hid, out in hollow stumps and brush-heaps, near his schoolhouse, in the vicinity of the settlement, near the Prophet's town on Mud Creek, where it was located: he fell into disfavor and left the country about 1821. Beers each winter was usually located south of town, in the neighborhood of Thompson, Studabaker, Arnold and Freshour, and Williams was usually below, where the Hayes, Westfalls, Popejoy and the Carnahan family were his patrons. Log cabins, in which in place of glass greased paper admitted the light, and a chimney occupied the end in which log-heaps were burned to keep up the requisite warmth, were the requisite edifices in which they each "taught the young idea how to shoot."

There was a log edifice erected on Lot 32, in Greenville, on which was located the first burial ground, that at times served as a schoolhouse, at others, after the organization of the county, as a room for the grand jury, and once for the sitting of the court. It is probable that Beers, Talbot and Williams each taught, or pretended to teach, a school in it at intervals between 1818 and 1824: it was only once occupied afterward for this purpose. In 1827, under Guilford's law to inaugurate public schools in Ohio, the Trustees divided Greenville Township into school districts, and Greenville District, to get the thing fairly under headway, chose three men School Directors, no two of whom, by reason of feuds and ill-feeling, would speak to each other. The parties alluded to, who may as well be named, John Beers, David Briggs and Linus Bascom, let the year pass away without further action than being sworn into office. In the succeeding year, a new Board was elected and qualified, and proceeded at once to action, and had the old house on Lot 32, to which neither town or district had any title, pulled down, and removed the logs to a half of Lot No. 3, deeded by Bill Wiley in discharge of fines for assault and battery, to the school district.

To aid in the re-erection and fitting-up, a subscription in aid of public funds was taken up, and some forty dollars in work or money subscribed. On the evening after the old house had been pulled down, and the logs hauled to the newly selected site, an altercation took place between Abraham Scribner and Isaac Shideler, as to the price and value of the floor in the new schoolhouse, in the heat of which, Shideler, in whose hands the subscription paper had been left, stuck it in the stove, and that was the end of the enterprise: in after years the logs were cut into firewood by Samuel Pierce and others of the vicinity, who needed fuel and were short of funds to buy it. Years afterward, the district erected in place







of one decent schoolhouse, two "make-shifts," on Lots 3 and 13, that for years were a nuisance, eye-sore and heart-scald to those who had children to be sent to school. But, after an interval of many years, they were superseded by the good sense of the Board of Education of the town, under whom the existing school buildings were erected some years since.

The history of the town of Greenville as a municipal organization here demands a brief notice, and only brief notice will here be given. At the session of the State Legislature of 1832-33, the first act to incorporate the town of Greenville was passed. Some matters in that act deserve a passing notice. The elective franchise was restricted to those who had been for six months not only voters of the county and State, but residents of the town, and eligibility to the offices of Mayor and Trustees, forming the legislative council of the town, limited to freeholders. It would probably be well if these provisions had been continued, but under the codes passed under the new constitution of the State, and which abrogated all the old charters of the cities, towns and boroughs of the State, pure and unadulterated Democracy intervened to such an extent that the public burdens were imposed and public funds expended by those who were wholly disinterested, bearing no share in the one, nor having any material interest in the other. To make a long story short, it may as well be stated, that, for more than twenty years, the municipal government of the town, from year to year, has been created and controlled, in the main, by men who, with few exceptions, pay no taxes, and care nothing how much others have to pay. It is now a matter of so little interest as to who held office as Mayor, Council, Marshal, Clerk and Treasurer of the Town from 1833 to 1840, that the recapitulation of their names would have little to interest the reader of these pages, and hence the matter is here dismissed.

In regard to the progress of the township of Greenville outside of the clearing of the land and reducing it to cultivation, which steadily went on, it may be here related that after the erection and destruction of Terry's mill and the completion of Dean's, the next enterprise was the erection in 1824, by Samuel Kelly, of a wool-carding establishment near the site, but above where Terry's mill was destroyed in 1813, and within about a year afterward, a mill for grinding grain was added by the same proprietor, who, about 1828, sold out to John Swisher, who continued both concerns for some years, until the termination of a lawsuit against him by Dr. Perrine, for nuisance, for backing water over the swamps above the mouth of Mud Creek. The outcome of this lawsuit resulted in the virtual destruction of the mill in 1835-36.

In about 1826-27, David Briggs erected a grist-mill and saw-mill on the creek, a mile and a half below the town, which, with little profit to the various owners who have possessed the property within the past forty years, has been in operation until this spring—1880—when its destruction has been determined upon under the pretext of draining the swamp above the mouth of Mud Creek. Willson, who, with his brothers, Samuel and Christopher, and his brothers-in-law, Hugh Lourimore and John Culbertson, emigrated to the county in 1816 and 1817 and settled east and southeast of Greenville, at the distance of from two to five miles, built a saw-mill on the dividing branch, near its confluence with Greenville Creek, about the year 1822. This concern rotted down, and was rebuilt several times; has been in operation, off and on, on the average, about three months of the year since its first erection. About fifteen years later, John W. Harper built another saw-mill on the same branch, about half a mile above Martin's, which was operated for a number of years, but is now among the things that were.

About the same time that Briggs was engaged in the erection of his mill, Jared Barnes put up a grist and saw mill near the west line of the township, on Greenville Creek. The mills have been remodeled and rebuilt various times, and have been owned by various parties, and are yet in existence, sometimes in running order, but nearly as much of the time lying idle for repairs. The traps



which have been enumerated constituted the milling facilities of the township to the close of 1840, and during all the years before that, and much of the time since, the chief dependence of the people of the town and township for the prepared material whereof to make their bread, was on mills not merely beyond the limits of the township, but beyond the boundaries of the county.

Notice has already been taken of the tanyard abortions of Routsong & Williamson. About 1819 or 1820, Amos P. Baldwin and John McGregor started a tannery on a small scale, on the lot on Water street below the railroad, now occupied by Jack Taylor. Baldwin died about 1821, and the concern, in a year or two, changed hands, and kept on changing until on the death of George Sanderson, the last owner, who operated it in 1855, when it went out of existence altogether; it was never, so far as known, a source of any profit to any of its owners.

In 1826, William Martin, already named, established a tannery about a quarter of a mile up the branch, above his saw-mill. From this concern, for thirty or forty years, his son Robert, and others who ran it, turned out a commodity which they said was leather, but by other people was called horn; a side of it might be bored or cut when moist, but in the dry state defied awls and edge-tools. In 1831 or 1832, Jacob Herkimer located a tannery between Water street and the Creek, about half-way from the Broadway bridge to the mouth of Mud Creek; he died in a year or two afterward, when it was taken charge of by his step-son, D. R. Davis, in behalf of his mother and the minor children of Herkimer, after which it changed owners several times, and is now the property of Thomas B. Waring, a recent purchaser. A year or two afterward, William W. Jordan purchased a tract of land over the creek and began what is now the Porter Tannery, it also changed owners once or oftener before it came into the hands of the present occupants—the Messrs. Porter—and it, as well as the Herkimer yard, have been carried on continuously through all the intervening years.

Of the other industries of the town of Greenville prior to 1840, it is unnecessary to speak. There were carpenters and blacksmiths, shoemakers and tailors who did the work required by their customers, who usually furnished the materials to be wrought upon; at that day there was neither foundry, machine-shop nor planing-mill either in the town or in the county. But in this connection, one other matter of note must be stated. In 1832, Samuel Scott and Edward Donelam commenced the publication of a weekly newspaper, that, having borne various titles and passed through the hands of many proprietors, is yet, after the lapse of forty-eight years, published as the *Greenville Journal*.

The duty yet remains to speak of the changes and progress in other avocations and employments to the end of 1840, and, as the first item, relate the successions as well as beginnings of those upon whom devolved the duty of affording food and shelter to the wayfarers, including man and beast, for a consideration.

Moses Scott, as has already been stated, emigrated to Fort Wayne in 1824. On leaving, his stand was rented to Judge Terry, who remained in it until about the close of 1827, and was succeeded, first, by John Armstrong, who in a short time gave way to Jack Douglass. James Craig, in 1829, purchased the property, occupied the old stand until his brick building adjoining the public square, and the nucleus of the present Wayne House, was completed, into which he removed, and continued the business until 1833, when he rented the stand to Edward Shaffer, whose death occurred in the summer of 1835, after which, his widow continued the business for some months, when she gave way to Charles Hutchin, from Jacksonburg, in Butler County. Hutchin, in 1837, built the Broadway House, now the Exchange Bank and Vantelburgh's grocery, into which he removed, and the house across the street was not again occupied as a tavern until 1840. Bascom ceased to keep a tavern in 1829, on the decease of his wife, and his premises were not again ever occupied for that purpose. In 1828, a house (now the







residence of John Hufnagle, recently built by Dr. Perrine, was occupied by Samuel Robison as a public house, but in a few months he surrendered it to the Doctor, who had taken to himself a wife and needed it as a residence; and here it may as well be noted that, some four or five years afterward, Mrs. Perrine died, and Perrine, after some time (how long the narrator fails to remember), ceased to be a householder, and, for the remaining years of his life, was found sometimes here, sometimes at Dayton and sometimes in New Jersey, where he had numerous relatives. At last, some two years ago, he died in the lunatic asylum near Dayton, to which, on account of mental aberration, he had for a few years been consigned, beyond the age of more than fourscore years. The widow of Azor Scribner, a year or two after the desertion of her second husband, ceased to occupy the old Scribner stand on Water street, and, for about a year (1828-29), in it was kept, by Isaac Shidler, a tavern after the manner that the woman kept tavern in Indiana, to wit, "like h—l." The establishment ceased "for keeps" in the autumn of 1829. In 1828, Joshua Howell, who had in that year been elected Sheriff, and had, some years previously, been for one term County Commissioner, removed from Fort Jefferson and opened what was called a tavern in a small frame house on Third street, that stood where is now the dwelling of George Studabaker. In 1830, he erected a frame house on the corner of Broadway and Fourth street, which was dignified with the title of "Travelers' Rest." Howell, who, in the interim after his shrievalty expired, wanted to run for Congress, and did run a sorry race for a seat in the State Legislature, in 1831 sold the "Travelers' Rest" to Nicholas Mark, who, after some years' occupancy, leased it to David Angel, who was its occupant in 1840 and for some time afterward. The further history of the "Rest" will not here be related, further than to say that it was pulled down, some four years ago, to permit the erection of "Allen's Hall" and the "Greenville Bank." In 1830, Francis L. Hamilton enlarged, by the erection of a second story and additions, a frame building on Main street and the public square, opposite the newly erected tavern of Craig, and in it continuously, until after 1840, kept a public house, held in good esteem by all his boarders and the traveling public. In a few years after 1840, Hamilton took charge of a hotel in Richmond, Ind., from which, in a couple of years, he returned to his farm, some three miles north of Greenville, and from there, at a later period, to the town, where he died about two years ago, at the age of more than eighty years. The old tavern stand was removed, within the decade of 1840-50, to give place to the Waring Block. The changes in this department of business, since the close of 1840, will be noted elsewhere.

The progress of business in the mercantile line, prior to the close of 1840, must be noticed, and the changes of the parties engaged in it, as well as the locations where the business was transacted, taken into account. Beside the unremembered Frenchman and Azor Scribner, mention has already been made of David Connor, Abraham Scribner and the Hoods.

Connor, after the treaty, and near the time that Scribner and the Hoods engaged in business, as has elsewhere been stated, removed to Recovery: at a later period, he was on the Mississinewa, below Llewellyn's mill, where he was located at the time of the murder of the Indians, in 1824, that raised him to the chieftainship. At a later period, he went down the river below the Broad Riddle, within the limits of what is now Grant County, Ind., where his death occurred about 1848. His wife never left Greenville, but continued to reside there until her decease, in March, 1851. Scribner, as has been stated, on the death of his second wife, went to the Maumee, having sold out his stock to Henry House, but, after a few months' absence, returned early in 1823, repurchased from House, and continued in business until his death, in 1847.

The Hoods were succeeded by Alexander Delorac, and he in a few months gave way to Charles Neave, who remained but a short time, when he returned to Cincinnati, in 1822, and for thirty years or more was a member of the firm of T. & C. Neave, extensively engaged in the iron and hardware business in that city.





About the time that Neave left, Nicholas Greenham, of Piqua, established what might be called a branch of his Piqua house at Greenville, which was withdrawn in April, 1825.

In the fall of 1826, Loring R. Brownell, also from Piqua, came with a stock, and continued until late in 1833 or early in 1834. He sold his stock to James M. Dorsey and Henry Arnold. In three years, or near that, afterward, Dorsey withdrew, and Arnold alone carried on the business of the house until after 1840, and now, forty years later, is still in business as a member of the firm of H. & H. N. Arnold. In the latter part of 1827, John McNeil engaged in business in a small way, and in about a year sold out to F. L. Hamilton, who, in a year or eighteen months, sold to W. B. Beall, in 1830, who, in the spring of 1831, was joined by Francis Waring, who several years later became sole proprietor, and continued in business until 1876. His death occurred in 1878. Beall died about 1855 or 1856. About the same time that Beall commenced business, Allen La Mott and Josiah D. Farrar, as the firm of La Mott & Farrar, commenced and continued until after 1840. In 1834 or 1835, Milton Bailey bought a stock of goods, and in a brief period gave place to John Baird, who in short meter "blew out of the bolt ropes" and went to Texas or Arkansas, leaving creditors to "wailing and gnashing of teeth."

About the same time that Bailey started in business, William Martin, who has before been named as proprietor of a saw-mill and tanyard, employing a relative as clerk and salesman, laid in a stock at Cincinnati, and opened out in Greenville. In a year or little more, Martin ascertained that he was "in bad shape;" to keep things from getting worse, dismissed the clerk; to meet pressing demands, borrowed \$1,000, which amount, with what should have been the profits, he found had been sunk, and sent what remained in care of his son, William Martin, Jr., to Recovery, about the close of 1835 or early in 1836. In the end he weathered the storm, but in after years, after the establishment was closed out, he frequently stated to friends that it would have been far more than \$1,000 in his pocket if he had never "tried on" being a merchant.

In 1834, John C. Potter came from Butler County, and engaged in the mercantile business, which he continued until the death of his wife, daughter and himself from cholera, in August, 1849. A year later came his brother Hiram Potter and Samuel Davis, from Jacksonburg, in Butler County, who for a time carried on the mercantile business, as the firm of Potter & Davis. The firm dissolved in 1838 or 1839; Davis went to Piqua, and Potter continued business as successor of the firm until his death in June, 1845.

The trading house of Connor, afterward occupied by Greenham, was on the east corner of Water and Sycamore streets. The Hoods, Delorac and Neave on the northwest side of Water street, between Elm and Vine. The establishment of Scribner was first in a log house, out of town as then laid out, near where is now located the gas works, and subsequently on the south corner of Main and Elm, and in 1830, he again removed down Main street between Sycamore and the public square. McNeil, Hamilton & Beall were in the same location, which stood on the site of the Waring Block, and two or three years later Beall & Waring were at the Kipp corner, in a building which, at a later day, when it was the "Buckeye House," was burned down. Brownell first located between Sycamore and Elm on Main street, where Dr. Lynch now resides; at a later day at the east corner of the public square, on Broadway, to which La Mott & Farrar, who first were in the old stand of McNeil, Hamilton & Beall, removed, in 1833, and when he was succeeded by Dorsey & Arnold. They transferred the concern to the west corner of Broadway and Third. Bayley & Barrd were on the west side of Main, between the public square and Sycamore. John C. Potter first opened at the same place, and then, after erecting the Katzenberger building, which served as storeroom and dwelling, occupied it until his decease, in 1849. Potter & Davis were at first in Bascom's corner, afterward in what is yet known as the Hiram Potter House, between the public square and Walnut street.





At the close of 1840, all the mercantile business of the town was transacted within the four blocks adjoining the public square.

It must here also be stated that previous to that time, in a country town like Greenville, the mercantile business was not divided up into the various branches of dry goods, groceries, iron and hardware, groceries, queensware and drugs, medicines, paints and dye stuffs. Every dealer had nearly a little of everything, and but very little of anything. The whole stock of merchandise in every department, brought to the town in a year, would not have been equal to the spring purchase at this day, in the department of dry goods alone, of Moore & Winner, H. & H. N. Arnold, or Wilson & Hart. Prior to that year, no separate and distinct concern known as an iron and hardware store, drug store, clothing store (no Jew had yet appeared in the town), boot and shoe store, or grocery, had existed in the place. But the whole truth may as well be known. There had been traps, called groceries, kept by "Dad" Warren, Ethan Powers and Josiah Shaw, where a potato or a button were sold for a fivepenny-bit, and the customer given as a gratuity a drink of "bald-faced whisky." Under the old license laws the grand jury deemed it their business to intermeddle with these institutions, and they were soon "dried up."

During all the years over which this narration reaches, the progress of the town and township of Greenville, as well as the county of Darke, although sometimes slow, has been onward.

The census of 1820 showed the population of Darke County to be 3,717, and in that enumeration was included the inhabitants of what was then Mercer County, the territory of which then embraced part of the counties of Shelby and Auglaize. The inhabitants of what now remains as Darke County could not have exceeded 2,000. At the close of 1824, the town of Greenville had within it thirteen families, all told, the total number, old and young, being less than 100 souls. The census to be taken the present year, 1880, will reveal the fact that the town now contains about or quite four thousand inhabitants.

Several things in the early years withheld in town and county progress and improvement. The valleys of Bridge Creek, Mud Creek and the West Branch were then impenetrable swamps, covered by willows and inhabited by wolves.

In 1820, the sale of Government lands on a credit ceased, and early in 1825, all thus previously sold had to be paid out or forfeit to the United States. Several thousand acres were forfeited, and the certificates of several thousand more, as the laws then permitted, were relinquished to be applied in discharge of what remained due on the remaining portion. The mortality of the years 1821 and 1822, and of 1829 and 1830, contributed to prevent emigration. The furor for speculation in wild lands in 1836 and 1837 broke out, and even the banks of the Mississippi Indian Territory, as well as that which the Government owned, were staked out into city and town lots continuously from Keokuk to St. Paul. The bank crash of the latter year came when "red dog" and "mad dog," "wild cat" and every kind of paper money went down into simple rags, and the projected cities and towns from the Ohio to the Mississippi, with few exceptions, remain on paper only to this day. Many of the lands purchased as a speculation in Darke County remained unimproved and unsold for thirty years, and some of them to this day. Nevertheless, in spite of all these drawbacks, Darke County (the soil of which, fifty years ago, the more a man owned of it the worse he was off), has moved on, until now it ranks, if not the first, yet among the first in the State of Ohio.

As a sequel to what has been related of the early history of Greenville, town and township, it may not be improper to say something of some of the actors in that history who have now gone hence. It has been stated that among the arrivals after the treaty were Archibald and James Bryson, natives of Bedford County, Penn., who became settlers in Greenville Township. Archibald Bryson, on the organization of the county, was chosen a County Commissioner, and re-elected to



a second term of that office, and served at intervals in other public duties. For a period of twelve years, from 1816 to 1828, his influence and opinions as to men and measures served more than that of any other man to direct and control public action, and it may be said that this influence was exercised honestly and judiciously. He hated demagogues, and "greased no man with the oil of fool." The ascendancy which he had maintained passed over to and was exercised by Scribner for a succeeding period of about ten years. Since that time, no other individual has been able, without the co-operation of rings and cliques—and, in the days of Bryson and Scribner, rings and cliques had not been imported—to guide and govern Darke County. Now and then, some man took it into his head to "go it alone," but such only made a mistake, and were "left out in the cold." Archibald Bryson, about 1840, emigrated to Western Indiana, and died near Pittsburg, in Carroll County, about 1865. James Bryson, who had served several years as Justice of the Peace, was for some years County Commissioner, and for seven years was Associate Judge of Darke Common Pleas, continued to reside in the county until his decease, not far from the time of his brother's death.

A. Studabaker, who has been named as one of the earliest settlers in the county, was a resident of Greenville Township thirty-seven years, 1815–52, until his death, and was for many years a County Commissioner. He was destitute of education, but was a man of sound judgment, good executive ability, and strictly honest. Talbot, in 1822 or 1823, went to Indiana, put himself on good behavior and short rations, and was some years later elected to the shrievalty of one of the river counties down the Ohio, after which nothing further is known of his history to the writer. David Irwin was County Collector of taxes in the days when the office was sold at auction. In after years, he was County Treasurer, in which office he died, about 1846, and was succeeded by his son James in the same position, in which he also died, about 1851.

David Briggs, a very worthy man, came to this county as early as 1810: was elected a Justice of the Peace as early as 1816, or previous; was County Treasurer in 1819 or 1820. In 1828, by Scribner's direction, was elected County Commissioner, and, three years later, by his commandment, was defeated for the same office. Mention has been made of John Craig. He was the third County Auditor, and, while holding the office, died in 1825. James Craig, his brother, a year later, married the only daughter of Robert Gray, one of the proprietors of the town when first laid out, and raised a family of daughters, three of whom yet survive. After the discovery of the California gold fields, he went there, seeking to mend his fortunes, and three years later returned, and soon after died. His widow died a few years later. There was another James Craig, stepson of Judge Terry, and brother of Alexander, David and Seymour Craig. He was elected Sheriff of the county in 1830, and died a few months later, in 1831. Joshua Howell has been spoken of as a Commissioner and Sheriff. Three others, John, Thomas and Jerry, were here between 1827 and 1835. All were ambitious, and had reasonable *luck*. Joshua had been Justice, Commissioner and Sheriff; John was Sheriff after Craig's death four years; Thomas was six years a Justice; and, in the fall of 1835, at the end of John's term, Jerry was anxious to be his successor. Old Billy Chapman, in his Yankee accent, declared that "Darke County had been Howelled enough." Other people thought so, and Jerry was left. The whole race left the county soon after, and the truth may as well here be spoken, that not one of them possessed capacity to fit them for any public employment, and the further truth, borne out by the record of more than forty years, may as well be stated, that the proclivity to elect asses to office in Darke County ceased not when the Howells were gone.

The writer must here bring this chapter to a close. In his younger days, he was intimately acquainted with a number of individuals who had been in the armies of Harmar, St. Clair and Wayne. He was also intimately acquainted with nearly all the early settlers of Darke County, in which he has himself resided for





more than fifty-five years. The matters which he has related that occurred before he came upon the scene he obtained many years ago from the statements of those who had personal knowledge of the facts they related, and on whose truth he could rely; and the remaining statements of events since he came to the county were nearly all within his own personal knowledge. Of all of whom he has spoken, not half-a-score remain, and of those above mere childhood who dwelt in Greenville when he came to the place, not one is left—all are gone!

A few incidents of early years have been omitted, and of some of them mention should be made.

In 1828, a stray printer on his rambles came into the county, named Benjamin S. Bullfinch. At that early day "teetotalism" had not made any serious inroads. Bullfinch, when under the influence of "Baldface," entered somebody's house and promiscuously appropriated a watch of the value of more than \$10, as it was alleged and proved. He was arrested, indicted and tried, and as drunkenness was not then a justification of theft, was convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary for a year. This was the first conviction for an offense punishable by a sentence to the penitentiary in the county.

On the morning of January 21, 1840, there was found on the premises of the Broadway House, a dead infant that had come into the world at some time of the preceding night. The mother was soon ascertained to be a young woman in the employ of the landlord. Charles Hutchins was then the Coroner, and in obedience to his warrant a jury was called, who by their finding made the charge of infanticide against the mother, and she, as soon as her condition permitted, was removed to the county jail. After several months she was brought to trial. She was defended by Judge Crane, who discharged that duty by order of the court, without fee or reward. At that day, *lawyers* discharged the duty of defending the indigent accused, when thereto assigned by the court, upon and for the honor of their profession; and the practice of *shysters* haunting county jails in search of jobs at the cost of the county had not yet been inaugurated. On the trial, the woman was acquitted. That death had been occasioned by violence was established by the post-mortem investigation, but whether that violence was the result of purpose or accident was never known. The mother had been entirely alone in her hours of agony. No defense of insanity was set up; that plea, as an outcome for murder, was then scarcely known in criminal procedure. Now the conduct and character of the manslayer and his ancestry, to the third and fourth generation, are sought out to establish *hereditary insanity*, and as scarce any one who in his pedigree but must make mention of fools as well as madmen, the defense of mental alienation is generally made out.

In 1794, a criminal in Wayne's garrison was by a military court tried, convicted and sentenced, and pursuant thereto was hanged. Since that day, the sentence to death as the penalty of a broken law has been but once pronounced by a court of justice in Darke County, and that sentence is not at this present writing executed. Whether it ever will be, is in the uncertainty of the future.

The uproar on the streets reminds the writer that this is "show day;" there is to be exhibited a menagerie of animals and a circus. The first show in Greenville was of a similar character, though on a smaller scale, in June, 1829. But then as now, the institution was accompanied by a band of counterfeiters and thieves. On the next morning, Jim Craig had amongst his assets \$22 in counterfeit money, coin and bank notes. Howell had \$17, and other townsmen had lesser amounts. Two men had their pocket-books stolen, three others their pockets cut and purses taken, and there were outside thefts in the county amounting in the aggregate to \$200 or \$300. But then as now, men and their families who had neither meat nor meal, salt nor whisky in their dwellings, came to town and spent their last dime to "see the show."

Of the rise and progress of religious organizations in the town and township, the writer has not yet made mention, and, like many other matters of early years,





there is obscurity and doubt. As early as 1817 or 1818, Elder Nathan Worley, from Montgomery County, a man who could not read one word in the Bible, but by his people regarded as an apostle, belonging to the body who called themselves "Christians," and commonly called "New Lights," who utterly abhorred any other appellation or name of denomination or sect; and David Purviance, who had been a party in the revolt from the Presbyterian body at Cane Ridge, in Kentucky, about 1799 or 1800, and who, about 1809 or 1810, had removed with a number of like faith to the vicinity of New Paris, Preble County, the one illiterate as the fishermen of Galilee, the other like Paul or Timothy, "learned in the Scriptures from his youth," at intervals, few and far between, held religious services in the town or vicinity. About 1818, Greenville became a point in a circuit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and John P. Durbin, a D. D. of after years, and a man whose praise is yet in all the churches, although he has gone hence to his reward, was the first itinerant circuit-rider. About the same time or near it, the town and township became a missionary field of the Presbyterian Church, and was visited first by Nicholas Pittenger, and subsequently by John Ross of that denomination, who held services in the town and neighborhood. From 1819 or 1820, services of the Baptist Church were held at long intervals, by Childers and Wintermole, ministers of that denomination, who yet, after the lapse of sixty years, have a quasi-organization, although no regular stated service or house of worship in the town or township.

About the year 1833, a Methodist Church was erected on the site of the present edifice; it was a frame building, and of dimensions capable of seating an audience of one hundred to one hundred and fifty. The building was removed in after years across the street to make way for the present house. Near the same period, the Baptists took possession of the ground where the old log schoolhouse had been demolished, and erected a small frame structure to serve them as a place of worship. In 1836 or 1837, the existing Episcopal Church was erected on the ground where it yet stands; its position has been changed and the house enlarged. Either the same year or the year previous, the Christian Church erected a brick building on Third street, between Broadway and Walnut street, which was taken down about thirty years since on an exchange of lots, the church obtaining the site of the present edifice. These four buildings were the only structures for ecclesiastical uses in town or township in 1840. Services of other denominations were held either in some of these buildings after their erection or in the court house. It should, however, be stated here, that at the Catholic cemetery, two miles northeast of the town, a log house yet standing was erected, and in it at distant intervals religious services were held, when a priest came to look after the lambs of that flock who had strayed into the wilderness. This old building was probably erected in 1839 or 1840.



the first of these is the fact that the population of the country has increased very rapidly since the year 1800. This is due to a variety of causes, the most important of which are the discovery of gold in California, the discovery of oil in Texas, and the discovery of coal in the West. These discoveries have led to a rapid increase in the number of people who have come to the country, and this has led to a rapid increase in the number of people who have come to the country.

The second of these is the fact that the country has become a very important center of commerce and industry. This is due to the fact that the country has a very large population, and this has led to a rapid increase in the number of people who have come to the country. The third of these is the fact that the country has a very large population, and this has led to a rapid increase in the number of people who have come to the country.





*H. A. Kepner*

ARCANUM





Wm. H. H. H.

# HISTORY OF DARKE COUNTY.

BY PROF. W. H. MCINTOSH.

Those who bore the burden and heat of the early day,  
Who suffered loss and privation uncomplaining—where are they?  
They wrought with strong endurance, through discouragement and ill;  
Has the great All-Reaper spared them? Do they dwell among us still?  
Ah, no, they rest from their labors, and little to-day appears  
To remind us of the hardships endured by the pioneers.  
Their noble lives have drifted beyond the shores of time,  
But the blessed works that follow are enduring and sublime.  
Yet the past is soon forgotten, as an idle story told,  
The New is a strong young giant that slays and devours the Old.  
Who walks the streets of our cities where the tides of commerce flow,  
And thinks of the sloughs and brushwood there fifty years ago?  
Who, seeing the classic facades of our mansions grand and fair,  
Remembers the buckeye cabins and the half-faced camps once there?  
In the palace cars that bear us over the iron track,  
Leaving the wind to follow, who pauses and looks back  
To the time when the sole conveyance for human freight and goods,  
Was a stanch old four-horse wagon, creeping along through the woods?  
Who sits in our splendid churches, with their fretted and frescoed walls,  
Where the light, through painted windows, like a broken rainbow falls,  
And thinks of the band of settlers who paid to God their vows  
On the wild grass sod of the forest under the maple boughs.  
Ah, the past is soon forgotten when its pulsing heart grows cold—  
The New is a strong young giant that slays and devours the Old.

—S. T. Bolton.

## INTRODUCTION.

THE history of Darke County is a record of military strife and civil progress. It presents, in striking contrast, the terrible cruelties of savage warfare with the happy and harmonious developments of peace. It builds the forts which sheltered armies and, later, founds cities upon their sites. It shows to us a wild waste of forest and swamp, broken by stretches of prairie, and irrigated by bridgeless streams, transformed to fields productive, pastures pleasant, homes comfortable and cities growing, populous and flourishing. It presents to view the dwellers of the wood, the Shawnee, Miami and other tribes at home. The energy of France, the power of England and the dominant persistence of Americans found here full play. It conducts from beyond the Alleghanies and beyond the ocean to find the fatherland of the race now dwelling in its townships.

The savage is seen to vanish beyond the Mississippi, the pioneer becomes the settler and commencement is made of a civilization whose manifest destiny is the highest happiness and power of a free people. Owners of the lands they till, makers of the laws they obey, themselves the projectors and builders of house and church, turnpike and drain, and all the improvements apparent to the eye of the interested observer. Persevering industry is seen to have rescued a region of swamp wherein miasma bred and floated, poisoning the atmosphere and endangering life, to become the most fertile of farms and healthful of lands.

# HISTORY OF WABASH COUNTY

FROM 1818 TO 1880

The history of Wabash County is a record of the growth and development of a fertile and beautiful section of the State of Indiana. It is a record of the progress of a people who have made a home for themselves in a land of rich soil and abundant resources. The history of Wabash County is a story of the struggle for existence, of the triumph of the human spirit over the elements of nature, and of the achievement of a civilization that has made its mark upon the world.

The history of Wabash County is a story of the struggle for existence, of the triumph of the human spirit over the elements of nature, and of the achievement of a civilization that has made its mark upon the world. It is a story of the early days of settlement, of the hardships and dangers of pioneer life, and of the gradual development of a community that has become one of the most prosperous and civilized in the State. The history of Wabash County is a story of the growth of a people who have made a home for themselves in a land of rich soil and abundant resources. It is a story of the progress of a people who have made a mark upon the world.



Ohio is a noble State, and Darke County, emerging from obscurity, has advanced to prominence as one of her most productive counties. The history of Darke includes the origin of its founders, their progress in improving its lands and the results of their unwearied industry.

Could material reward our research, and unwritten truths be rescued from oblivion, much of what would fill these chapters would prove a valuable addition to our knowledge. There is the inception of courts, the crude attempts at agriculture, schooling, manufacture and mechanism, the projectors of the turnpike and the men who originated and carved through the railroads. There is the progress of education, the mutations of the press, the growth of religion and the strife of opinion—noble themes, worthy of labored study. The historian is desirous yet reluctant to attempt the task. Consulting the press, he finds its columns mainly replete with pleasing tales and political tirades. The pioneers have listened to able addresses, but these have not been placed on file. A Wharry, an Arnold, a Hiller and a Harper have gathered fragments and done a priceless service, but the records of Darke are meager and deficient, and their combination as lessons for present entertainment and future reference and instruction is a difficult and important task.

Traveling her railroads, traveling her turnpikes, and walking the streets of towns and cities, the county shows free traces of its recent growth, and the thoughtful are anxious to learn the story. To know the acts of our ancestors, to ascertain the rank of the county, to rehearse examples of heroism, and to exhibit the results of untiring and well-applied industry, are considered well worthy of patient investigation. The brief outline of State history centering within the bounds of Darke, the perilous settlements before the war, the roll of pioneers, the rapid changes wrought by labor, are themes to dwell upon. Aided by recollections of aged pioneers, annals and manuscripts, attempt is made to delineate the customs of the early day, to note the characters of primitive settlement and the influence on their health and habits of a residence in a region remote from travel and dense with the growth of centuries. There was seen here what is now going on in the Far West. The woods abounded in game, the lands were offered at low rates, and villages and towns would somewhere be laid out, and we shall see that these circumstances attract the roving trapper, the reckless speculator and the permanent settler.

Few are left to-day, in Darke, of those who rendered her citizens such incalculable service in making the county habitable. They have perished, but their work remains the basis of present and future prosperity. Pioneer life is made prominent because, from its impress, the future was determined. His legacy to posterity was an example of rare courage and ceaseless energy. A generation, springing from blended nations, has stamped its character upon a worthy successor. Peoples have clung to mountain side, or island home, because of life associations, but citizens of Darke are proud of the historic interest attached to her cities, the number and perfection of her pikes, and the attractions of a beautiful and diversified scenery.

Undulating plains, platted with farms and dotted by habitations, stretch away on either hand. Many streams unite their waters, and irrigating the lands, drain the soil of surplus moisture; groves of timber alternate with cleared fields, while town and city reveal their site by court-house tower and spire of church.

Seventy-four years ago, the first white man established within the limits of Darke County, by his rude cabin, an outpost of permanent occupation in the Indian country. Traders had been here and trappers had followed the traces years before, but the trails of armies had been overgrown with vegetation, and the Indians, cowed and sullen, were still at home in their rude camps along meandering streams.

Three-fourths of a century have transformed a savage paradise to an abode of the highest civilization. In vain disease and danger, privation and poverty,





were leagued against the pioneers : clearings increased in number and enlarged in area ; tradesmen and professional men gathered in the towns. Along Wayne's road they trooped and turned aside upon their entered lands. Later came the railroads, enhancing values and accelerating transportation. The perfect mechanism of the age is here in use, on farm, in town and city, and agriculture stands prominent in volume and character of its products.

Nor were education and religion ignored—those sterling agencies which elevate and ennoble while they direct and stimulate exertion. These testimonials of the past are pledges of like recognition of eminent services in the present, and give direction to the future. It is with interest we seek to trace the history of Darke, and from the most disheartening commencement discern the growth of present proud pre-eminence among her sister counties in elements of stable and enduring prosperity.

#### LINE OF ORGANIZATION—CONCURRENT EVENTS.

As families with pardonable pride trace their descent from a long line of honored ancestry, so may Darke seek out her origin from the counties first formed in the Northwestern Territory. Hamilton was the second county established in the Territory, and was organized by proclamation of Gov. St. Clair, on January 20, 1790, with the following boundary: Beginning on the Ohio River at the confluence of the Little Miami, and down said Ohio to the mouth of the Big Miami, and up said Miami to the standing stone forks or branch of said river, and thence with a line to be drawn due east to the Little Miami, and down said Little Miami River to the place of beginning. The condition of the pioneers of this county was deserving of commendation. For them to advance out into the wilderness seemed certain death, and to remain was to run the risk of starvation. Pioneers the best circumstanced found subsistence hard to get, and the poorer class were almost destitute. Game, fish, and what could be raised on small patches of ground in the settlements were the dependence for food. Having endured these privations for a time, some, the more resolute, determined to move out and occupy lands. There were several families which united to go, and for common safety block-houses were erected near their cabins. While at work by day a lookout was on the watch, and at sunset all retired within the pickets. So they labored on till improvements had been increased to a size sufficient to provide subsistence for their families. These stations became points of refuge for safety and food, and also drew upon them the attention of their foes. Perpetual vigilance, hardship and peril were the lot of the pioneer, and the block-house became the approved recourse of all settlers far up the rivers of Ohio. So scarce and dear was food at this time, that the little flour that could be afforded by families was saved away to be used only in case of sickness, or for the entertainment of friends, and game was sought as a necessity. Ross County was formed on August 20, 1793, by proclamation, as Hamilton had been, and likewise had very extensive limits. After Wayne's treaty, Col. Nathaniel Massie and others formed a company to make a settlement in the county. In August, 1796, Chillicothe was laid out by Col. Massie, and a lot given to each settler. Many of Wayne's soldiers and camp-followers settled here, and the society was much akin to what has been asserted of our Western towns of Deadwood and Leadville. Chillicothe was the point from which the valley settlements spread and advanced; it was a place of considerable business, and in 1800 became the seat of government of the Territory. Later, the honor of being capital fell to Zanesville, and finally to Columbus. Montgomery County was created from Hamilton and Ross on May 1, 1803, and the seat of justice was appointed to be at the village of Dayton, and, on January 16, four years later, Miami was formed from Montgomery, and Staunton, now a wretched hamlet near Troy, was made the county seat, and, finally, on January 3, 1809, Darke County was formed from Miami by act of the Legislature. It derived its name from the gallant Col. Darke, of whom honorable mention has been made in the successive campaigns of Harinar. St.





Clair and Wayne. The eastern, western and southern boundaries coincide with the original, but when formed, the county extended northward to the Indian boundary line fixed by Wayne's treaty, and therefore included a portion of the territory now belonging to Mercer County. As originally bounded, Fort Recovery stood on the northern line of the county. The original survey was made by Ludlow and his party early in the century, and the division into sections was the later work of Judge John Wharry, of Greenville. The field-notes of the original survey give dolorous accounts of the condition of the county, which seems to have been dismal with swamps and marshes and far from attractive to the most resolute pioneer. Less than a dozen men comprised the population of Miami County from 1797 to 1799, and in 1800 a few families moved in. Then immigrants began to come in from all parts of the country. From the coon to the buckskin embraced the circulating medium. Merchandise was first obtained from Cincinnati, then Dayton, and finally a man named Peter Felix established an Indian trafficking post at Staunton. Ten years had now gone by since Wayne had retired from Greenville, and Darke County still formed part of the Indian Territory beyond the frontiers. Its lands were traversed as yet only by the savage, the adventurous hunter, the wily trapper and by the Ludlows, Cooper, Nelson and Chambers, surveyors in Government employ, accompanied by their field hands. From June, 1799, to January, 1802, these venturing forerunners of occupation ran their lines in the face of the greatest natural obstacles with almost marvelous fidelity, and, returning, left their work to be made useful when the rising tide of settlement should flow in upon their forbidding, yet fertile tracts. Onward the settlements were sweeping as they have continued to sweep, till beating upon the far Pacific, there has come a return, and now in Kansas, Nebraska and other States there is still proceeding, under the potent influences of inventive genius, a continuation of that occupation which expands power, increases wealth and supplies homes for thousands.

At the close of the Greenville treaty, the county to the westward was a wilderness; but, in addition to the Indian traces leading from the Miami to the Maumee, and threading their devious way to other savage villages, there were the broad trails cut by pioneers, trodden by horsemen and footmen, and marking the route of armies and the forays of detachments. The soldier was also the citizen and the settler, and his quick, appreciative glance took in the possibilities of the countries he had traveled. For him the woods of Darke had no charm. The conditions elsewhere were here wanting. Contrast the statement made concerning the Miami settlement to the east with the actual condition of the lands of this county. There the country was attractive all about the settlement. Nature presented her most lovely appearance; the rich soil, mellow as an ash-heap, excelled in the exuberance of its vegetation. Cattle were lost from excessive feeding, and care was required to preserve them from this danger. Over the bottom grew the sweet annis, the wild nettle, the rye and the pea vine, in rich abundance, where the cattle were subsisted without labor, and these, with nutritious roots, were eaten by swine with the greatest avidity. In Darke lands there were found the woods, the endless variety of vine and shrub, impassable swamps, lack of roadway, and the great difficulty of making passable roads. Nor were the forests the only or most formidable barrier to early settlement. We have seen the woods to be filled with Indians. Their principal town was at Piqua, distant but eighteen miles; their camps were along the creeks. In the neighborhood of larger settlements they were treated roughly, and are entitled to little consideration, and it was known from bitter experience that lone families were in constant danger of the sudden wrath of the savage. We have spoken of Tecumseh's brother, the Prophet. As the latter appealed to credulity and superstition, so did the former to a slumbering sense of the wrongs to be redressed, and by far more was the warrior to be dreaded for the native eloquence and subtle scheming with which he gradually fanned the sparks of discontent into the flames of open warfare. It is said that he built a cabin at the point near Greenville, and by others it is denied; it matters not,





but the Shawnee brothers gathered about them dark retainers, who had no kindly impulses to the persons who might presume to pioneer the settlement of the country. Some portions of the county abounded in game, and among those timid and harmless animals were found those fierce and dangerous, as might be judged from the names of creek and locality. Still this might be regarded more as an annoyance than as a dread, and, later, premiums for scalps of wolf and panther supplied the settler with means of paying tax or buying necessities. There existed a still more potent influence debarring occupation, and this was ill reports of health and climate. The men of that day were little afraid of labor; they knew the Indian must give way, but they were peculiarly influenced by whatever partook of the mysterious, and Rumor's many voices soon changed the natural to the marvelous, and Darke County was shunned as the haunt of a plague, designated "milk sickness." Some implicitly believe in its prevalence to this day, while others assert that it is a myth, undeserving of credence. Endeavors to find a case have always proved futile. It is heard of "just over in the next township," but, going thither, report placed it further on in the next township, or perhaps in the one just left, and the phantom always places the breadth of a township between its locality and the curious investigator. But whether a myth or a reality, the report spread along the Miami and beyond: the settlers believed it, and, what was worse, regarded it with dread. Even the Indians asserted that certain districts were infected with an air freighted with the odors of disease, and gravely told the whites, "Not live much here—too much belly sick;" and, whatever the cause, there was sickness where they gave this word of warning. It will thus be seen that the territory which afterward became Darke County had won an unenviable reputation, and land titles were held at low rates, with few bidders. These things undoubtedly delayed settlement and caused a tardy growth, while they gave in compensation a class of men possessed of pluck and energy, well qualified to leave their impress on the soil.

In the settlement of Darke County, which for eight years was a dependency of Miami, two classes of land occupants were recognized—the transient and the permanent. The historian called to do justice to the worthy class finds but few of their descendants resident citizens of the county, and it is not till 1816 and later, that families came to stay and make their fortune blend with that of their future home.

Coming up the army roads, striking across the country, eligible locations caught the eye, and established the hunter at a creek-side home, while an unusual hard time in sickness and losses impelled the intended resident to move away. Thus there were conversions from one class to another, and all shared in a certain degree of restlessness while in search of a home, but a strongly marked distinction between the two divisions existed. There was seen to be here, as elsewhere, a border class of trapper and hunter affiliating with the savages, only endured by genuine settlers and hanging upon the outmost fringe of advancing occupation. It matters little who they were, these openers or beginners, who held aloof from neighbors, occupied miserable huts, raised small patches of corn, and left when the clearings became too numerous. Many poor men came into the county, put up small log cabins, cleared somewhat of ground, then, disheartened by privation, sickness and inability to make payments, gave way to others, who built with better success upon their broken fortunes. An old Darke County settler, located not far from Greenville, thus speaks of the actual pioneers as a class: "The place for the squatter is not quite among the Indians, for that is too savage, nor yet among good farmers, who are too jealous and selfish, but in the woods, partly for clearing it up and partly for hunting." The histories of townships, dealing with the first settlers, often speak of the unknown squatter, whose abandoned claims gave brief home to the settler, and whose ill-cleared vegetable patch, growing up to weeds and bush, made the spot seem yet more wild than the woods surrounding.

Travelers and land hunters characterize the squatter class as "rude and uncouth," and express relief when leaving some worse than usual "bed and board."





Misunderstandings were decided not unfrequently by personal encounters, many grievances taken before those early Justices reveal the sad lessons of poverty and intemperance, in marked contrast with later days : such was the character of the squatter class of Darke County. We turn with pleasure to consider the class whose labor is the basis of the present enlightened society, and find expression in the language of the gifted Everett. "What have we seen," said he, "in every newly settled region? The hardy and enterprising youth finds society in the older settlements comparatively filled up. His portion of the old family farm is too narrow to satisfy his wants or desires; and he goes forth with the paternal blessing, and often with little else, to take up his share of the rich heritage which the God of Nature has spread for him in this Western World. He leaves the land of his fathers, the scenes of his early days, with tender regret glistening in his eye, though hope mantles on his cheek. He does not, as he departs, shake off the dust of the venerated soil from his feet; but, on the bank of some distant river, he forms a settlement to perpetuate the remembrance of the home of his childhood. He piously bestows the name of the spot where he was born, on the place to which he has wandered; and while he is laboring with the difficulties, struggling with the privations, languishing, perhaps, under the diseases incident to the new settlement and the freshly opened soil, he remembers the neighborhood whence he sprung—the roof that sheltered his infancy—the spring that gushed from the rock by his father's door, where he was wont to bathe his heated forehead after the toil of his youthful sports, the village schoolhouse, the rural church, the grave of his father and of his mother. In a few years, a new community has been formed, the forest has disappeared beneath the sturdy aim of the emigrant, his children have grown up, the hardy offspring of the new clime, and the rising settlement is already linked in all its partialities and associations with that from which its fathers and founders have wandered. Such, for the most part, is the manner in which the new States have been built up; and in this way a foundation is laid BY NATURE HERSELF for peace, cordiality and brotherly feeling between the ancient and recent settlement of the country."

In recounting the incentives to Western emigration, the ruling motive was the hope of improving the condition. The land was cheap, undoubtedly fertile, and the prospects of a rise in values certain. There were those who expected to find a "paradise in the West," and journeyed thither only to suffer from disease, want and discouragements. Some went back, telling of suffering, and dissuaded those lightly influenced; others, with inherent manhood, resolved, since they were here, to make the best of it, and gradually won their way to affluence and comfort. Some time in the fall of 1806, or the spring of 1807, the first white man who came to the county to remain, established an Indian trading-house upon the northeast corner of Section 34, Greenville Township, which for a time embraced the greater part of the county. His stock was small, and of the kind most desired by the Indians. He did a thriving business, and exchanged for his goods, which were sold at exorbitant prices, various kinds of furs and somewhat of the cursed coin which British greed of lands had induced their emissaries to distribute among the faithless savages.

It is said that the order in trading was as follows, but whether, in this particular instance, wherein Azor Scribner was trader, the plan was customary, is unknown. If not, it should have been, and it has some points worthy of attention from civilized customs at stores of this late day. The Indians, bringing with them their roll of furs, walked into the cabin and found seats, while each was presented with a small piece of tobacco. Pipes were lighted, and the residue was placed in pouches. After some time passed in smoking and talking among themselves, one arose, went to the counter, and, taking up a yardstick, pointed out the article wanted and asked the price. Payment being made in skins, there was to each kind a recognized value. The muskrat was held at a quarter, the raccoon at a third, a doe at a half and a buckskin at a dollar. Payment was made following





each purchase, until all exchanges were effected. As each retired, another came forward in his turn till all had traded. No one desired to anticipate his turn, decorum was observed, and no attempt was made to "beat down," for, if not satisfied, another article was pointed out and named.

It is reported that Scribner not only sold the Indians tobacco, but rum, and they generally reserved some of their furs with which to procure liquor for a final frolic. The statement is made, and is probably true, that this pioneer trader supplied his savage customers with rifles, powder, lead, knives and hatchets, on the principle that if he did not others would, and he might as well have the profits. We cannot blame him for steep prices, when we consider the means of travel. His goods were hauled from Fort Washington, now Cincinnati, along Wayne's road by way of Fort Jefferson, by a yoke of oxen attached to a rough kind of sled, denominated a "mud-boat," and a trip usually occupied a period of from three to six weeks. As there was no competition, Scribner held the monopoly for several years, until the arrival of David Conner, in 1811 or 1812, when his coadjutor aspired for a portion of the trade, which at this later period partook more largely of civilized exchange.

We have said that Azor Scribner was the pioneer of Darke County, but, some six years after the treaty of Greenville, a Frenchman of unknown name established himself for a brief period upon the site of Minatown, and trafficked with the natives in exchange for his calicoes and other goods. Scribner's house was located about twenty rods from the present site of Porter's tanyard, but the date when he moved his family from Middletown, on the Miami, to Greenville is unknown, although thought to have been some time in 1805. This family consisted of his wife, Nancy Scribner, and two daughters, Sarah and Elizabeth, all of whom lived in the shanty which served at once as home and store. Sarah—or "Aunt Sally"—McKham is prominent among the aged of to-day as the oldest living settler in Darke County.

#### PIONEERS—THEIR RECORD, INCIDENTS OF THE TIMES, 1808 TO 1816.

We have to deal, in this chapter, with Darke's history and its surroundings, for the brief period of eight years. When we call upon the living and question them concerning events of this interval, from the formation to the organization of the county, we find them at a loss what to say. We turn to the bound volumes of the press, garnered in the court-house, and find few allusions to this period, so momentous as the initial of settlement, the commencement of still-continued progress, and we ponder the meager particulars of these eventful years.

Within the limits of a generation, marvelous changes have swept this region. Black Hoof, Logan and Tecumseh vanished before the swelling tide of western-bound humanity, and the Shawnee was driven beyond the Mississippi. Sons and grandsons are cultivating the fields of the pioneers, whose last-surviving members totter upon the verge of dissolution. Fine farms, growing cities and enlightened society are the results of pioneer enterprise, yet the shadows of oblivion are gathering. The memories of a Rush, an Arnold and of a Wharry, will soon have lost their distinctness, and their knowledge will have gone beyond recovery.

What will be known a few years hence of Samuel Boyd, Aaron Hiller and Lemuel Rush? Of Abraham Studabaker, Briggs, Terry, Creviston, Carnahan and Devor? What of Scott, McIntyre, Thompson, Williams, Hayes, the ill-fated Rush, and a score of those whose labors broke the solitude and changed the features of the wilderness? It is no puerile task to wrest from obscurity remembrances of early events, and those connected with them. The student of vital statistics stand amazed at the mortality of our older citizens during these last few years. Familiar faces are sought upon our streets and at their homes, in vain. The harvester has gathered the pioneers; a few yet remain as the gleanings, even as some fruit clings to the branches when the time of the vintage is past. These



are the veteran survivors of battles with nature's obstacles ; the aged witnesses of strange mutations. History knows of no worthier theme than that of those pioneers in a primeval forest, by whose toil the forests fell ; at whose will the heavy, dark woods gave way to fields of grain, log cabins and initial industries. Where malignant fevers and pestilential miasma crouched and hovered among the swamps, one sees the well-tilled fields, the useful drain, the lasting pike. Pioneers of Miami, men fearless of heart and experienced in the settlements, saw with concern the rude outfits of the early settlers of Darke, as they pushed slowly on and disappeared in the heavy forests and ague-haunted swamps of that region.

People did not move by steam and car in those days, no, nor for many years later ; as late as 1839, the family of J. S. Patterson plodded their slow march for *four hundred miles*, their goods upon a road wagon, drawn by three horses. All along the way, the inquiry was made of them : " Where are you from and where are you going ? " They had traveled a long way in Ohio before any one was found who knew that there was a Darke County in the State. They insisted that it must be Stark County or Clarke County that was meant. But, after they had left these counties in the rear, and had only two or three days' travel to make, there were found some unusually well-informed people, who knew where Darke County was, and they knew it mainly by its bad reputation. They said : " Don't go there for God's sake ; you'll all die with the milk sickness," and if travel and report were so adverse, at this comparatively recent period, what must it have been when, during the winter of 1807-08, Samuel C. Boyd moved in and settled on Section 14, Greenville Township ? Upon a small stream heading about two miles north of Greenville, and tributary to the Stillwater, near Beamsville, Boyd concluded to remain. He is notable as the first white man who, accompanied by a family, made a home within the limits of the county. The farm first known to occupation as the residence of this pioneer is that later owned by William Cunningham, and in 1879, by George Manix. The creek perpetuates his name as Boyd's Creek, and brief remembrances tell the following : He went to work and built a house, near where the railroad crosses the Gettysburg pike. How he got the timber in place and who came to his assistance is conjectural. Perhaps Scribner and a party of his Indian customers lent a helping hand, friends may have come with him and then returned, or, as is most probable, his wife may have rendered what aid she could, and he had the energy and ability to erect it himself.

Subsequent to this, Boyd entered a tract of land on Boyd's Run, between the farms afterward owned by James Buchanan on the south and Barnett's on the north. He was at work on this place clearing off a site for a house, when some one came along and reported the murder of Rush by Indians. At the solicitation of Abraham Studabaker, who, in 1808, had located on the east side of Greenville Creek, and had built a block-house there, through distrust of the Indians, Mr. Boyd was induced to remove to this refuge, with his family, where they remained but a short time. The ceaseless dread of violence hung like a threatening cloud over their minds, and they returned to Warren County, where they remained until the close of the war, when they once more returned to occupy and improve their land on the run. Prior to their removal, on one occasion, while Mr. Boyd was absent from home at night, the fierce barking of a dog led the family to think that Indians were prowling around, and Mrs. Boyd, in quiet, cautioning the children against noise, left the house with them and secreted herself and children in a pile of brush, and there passed the hours till morning. Mrs. Martin, then known as Dorcas Boyd, says that she remembers playing with the Wilson girls, who, as we shall learn more in detail, were killed by the Indians, and relates that a brother of the girls, pursued by savages, treed, thrust his hat, placed on the muzzle of his gun, cautiously to one side of the tree, as though peering out, drew the fire of his pursuers, and while they stopped to reload, made good his escape.

During the war of 1812, several incidents occurred in and about Greenville, which at that early day seemed naturally to be fitted for a county seat. The





greater number of Indians who remained friendly, who claimed and received protection from the United States, were located at Piqua, and placed in charge of Col. Johnston. There were the Shawnees, Delawares, Munseys, Mohicans, and portions of the Wyandots, Ottawas and Senecas. There were at one time assembled here full six thousand; and far from being a source of danger, they were the best possible protection to the frontier while they were friendly. Johnston was beloved of them, their known friend and a man of approved courage. Several attempts were made to kill him in hopes of securing the strong body of savages for British assistance. Friendly chiefs warned him of danger. His family, save his wife, who stayed by him, and all his papers and effects of value, were removed for security, while he remained at his post. Various efforts, all foiled, were made to effect his death. Madison, then President, disdained to employ Indians in warfare, from a high sense of honor and noble principle, in striking contrast with his cruel and mercenary antagonist, and thereby suffered those reverses which befell our arms in the North. White flags with mottoes were supplied to parties of the Indians wishing to pass scouts and outposts in safety. The hatred to Indians in general, regardless of their feelings to the whites, was such that but for prudent action these Indians would have been driven to retaliate unprovoked injuries.

At one time, a party of whites discharged a murderous volley into the midst of a body of Indians, approaching them with the utmost confidence, bearing a flag in full view. Two Indians fell dead, a third was wounded, and the rest were taken captive, robbed of everything they possessed and taken to Greenville, where a post had been established, and to which these cowardly assassins belonged. Conscience has ever made cowards of men, and the garrison at Greenville, alarmed at the possible consequences of their cruel action, brought their prisoners to Upper Piqua, and delivered them to Col. Johnston. That officer decided to conduct them back to Greenville, and there to restore them to their property and to their people. The officer commanding the post at Piqua was asked for a guard to the Indians, but neither himself nor any of his men dared to go. Johnston then decided to make the journey himself, to prevent evil effects among the Indians. Mounting his horse, he bade his wife farewell, and made the journey to Greenville in safety. The articles taken from the Indians were returned to them, a speech of conciliation and disavowal made, and then the Colonel rode home alone.

#### PERSONAL REMINISCENCES.

The Rush brothers, James, Henry and Andrew, with their brother-in-law, Miller, and Henry Creviston came to Darke in 1810, from the Pickaway Plains, and settled near Greenville, where they remained till the spring of 1812, when the following occurrences took place:

All were steadily at work, preparing the ground for a crop of corn, and each day saw some improvement upon that preceding. Indians were camped all through the woods and passed the greater part of their time in hunting. It will be remembered that this was the spring succeeding the battle of Tippecanoe, where, as is well known, the Indians attempting to surprise the camp of Gen. Harrison were signally defeated. There was one Indian of those ranging the woods near the creek, who was lame as if wounded, and who gave himself the name of Simon Girty, but whether hostile or not, little attention was paid to him or the others. The people were attending busily to their necessary labors. Some employed the spring days of 1812 in clearing their land, some were busy tapping the sugar maples, boiling the sap and making syrup and sugar, and so were engaged about the 1st of April, when indefinite reports were circulated of Indian hostility and consequent danger to the settlers. A trader up at Fort Recovery was reported to have been killed by his partner, while some said he met his death from the Indians. The incident created no alarm, and matters proceeded as usual till one day the Rush brothers, making a journey on horseback to Fort Recovery,





passed on their way a number of camps whose occupants, manifesting a friendly feeling, lulled apprehension, and the settlers, easily quieted, went about their daily labors.

About the 28th of April, Andrew Rush started for a little mill which had been built on Greenville Creek, a few rods above where the Beamsville road to Greenville makes a crossing. He got his grist and set out to return home. On his way he stopped to make a call on Daniel Potter, who, with Isaac Vail, was occupying each his own end of a double log house, which stood between the present residence of Moses Potter and the creek.

These two settlers from some cause had become fearful of trouble, and had gone down the Miami for assistance to take back their families to their former homes. Mrs. Potter asked Rush if he were not afraid of the Indians, and he put his hand through his hair and replied, jokingly, "No; I had my wife cut my hair this morning, so short that they could not get my scalp off." Sometime about 4 P. M., he left for home, and had proceeded not half a mile when he was shot from his horse, tomahawked and his scalp taken.

Uneasiness was felt because of his not returning home, but all the next day forenoon rain fell steadily, and it was thought he might have stayed with a settler, but in the afternoon Hiller's oldest son and Rush's brother-in-law took a horse and set out to look for him. The boys followed the track made by Rush to Greenville Creek, just above Spiece Mill, and there found the body lying on the sack of meal, mutilated as described. They went hurriedly on to Potter's, and the settler who had returned mounted the horse and set out to spread an alarm. The boys crossed to the cabin of Thomas McGinnis, on Mud Creek, but he had heard the news and had departed. At the next house the inmates had also gone, and, running forward to the third cabin, they found it, too, silent, deserted and the door partly open. Hiller took a look within to see how matters were, and saw that the house had been left in haste and little, if anything, had been removed.

They then hastened to the cabin of Henry Rush, and it was abandoned. The truth was evident, that a panic had seized upon all, and they had fled for their lives.

Darkness surrounded the boys as they made their way through the woods to the cabin of James Rush, where the settlers had assembled their families, and were preparing to meet an expected attack. Just before the arrival of the boys, James Rush had set out on horseback to reconnoiter how things were.

Arriving at the house of Peter Rush, he there found the hunter, Henry Crevis-ton, who had passed the day in the woods, and now the three men, accompanied by the wife of Peter, went to the home of Andrew, where John S. Hiller, son of Aaron, was passing the night. The sad news was soon known to all, and the party set out for Mr. Hiller's. It was well that the Indians did not attack the family, as they were helpless. Mrs. Hiller had not walked a step for years, and there were five children here too small to travel alone. The reader cannot imagine the terror of the time—the gloomy uncertainty. About 9 P. M., the sky cleared of clouds, the moon rose and James Rush mounted his horse, took up Peter's wife behind him and went home for help to remove the women and children.

None of the men could be spared, as they expected to be attacked before daylight, but the two boys, above named, returned with two more horses and a gun. All started for the fort, as it was afterward called, at about 2 A. M., and got in safe at daylight. The men were busy all this day putting the cabin in a state for defense, while the body of the murdered man still lay where it had fallen, and the panic was at its height.

A man named Sumption, about sixty years of age, set off alone, gun in hand, to Troy, Miami County, and reached there by daylight. Another man went to Lexington, Preble County, the same night. The next evening, a company of men reached old Fort Greenville, and late at night another company came up and went into camp on the east side of Mud Creek. In the morning, the Preble County





men moved out on the road to the body of Rush and gave it burial. They then pushed for the new block-house where seven families had gathered for safety.

Part of the relief remained at Rush Fort some time, and arrangements having been made, the women and children were escorted back to the older settlements for security. The Rush families returned to Pickaway County, and Hiller moved his family to Piqua, Miami County, about the middle of May.

At this time, there was but one family at what was then called old Fort Greenville, and this that of Mrs. Armstrong. Across the creek stood the cabin of Scribner and at the fort could be seen portions of the pickets set by Wayne's men, and a gibbet built by his orders was yet standing.

The experience of Abraham Studabaker, as detailed in township history, was hard enough, but he did not retire from his land. He moved in 1795, from Pennsylvania to Scioto County, Ohio, thence he went to Warren, and, in 1808, came to Darke and built his first cabin on Congress land, near the present site of Gettysburg. He thought it prudent to erect a block-house on his premises and adopted toward his many Indian visitors a policy of kindness. No hungry Indian tramp went unfed from his door. Though somewhat of a tax on his resources, yet it enabled him safely to remain upon and improve his land.

Previous to the battle of Tippecanoe, a cowardly attack was made upon a Miami Indian, coming to Greenville with his family for supplies. The particulars are fully given by J. Wharry in a previous chapter. Such was the effect of this attack upon the Indian mind, that before 10 o'clock next morning Fort Meigs, a hundred miles distant, was surrounded by 2,000 enraged savages. Brooding upon defeat, driven from their ancient homes, and incited by the English, the cause of one tribe was espoused by almost the entire number of the Northwest Indian tribes, and from that time until the victory of Harrison, and the defeat of Tecumseh and Gen. Proctor, at the Fallen Timber, in Upper Canada, the settlers on the frontier were only preserved from "the terror by night, and the dread by day," through the exercise of the most unrelenting watchfulness. In addition to the Indian troubles, the war of 1812 increased the jeopardy to life in the scattered homes of the pioneers. It should have been enough for families to brave the loneliness and hardships of the wilderness without the constant apprehension of murderous surprise, torture, or the tomahawk and knife.

While, as we have said, a large body of Indians had assembled at Piqua, there were in the woods many who needed little urging to again dig up the hatchet. The wholesome dread of Wayne had lessened with time, and the solicitations and bribes of the English were not altogether ineffectual. The account given of murders on either side show the smoldering fires which were likely at a moment to be fanned into a blaze, and explain the singular panics which drove back the picket lines of settlement upon the heavier bodies. A new race had come to maturity, and their warm blood excited the Indians to open hostility. We know that Tecumseh remained for a time after being ordered to leave, and finally moving from his camp on Mud Creek, he led his warriors bravely, but in vain, as an ally of the British, in hopes to drive the whites from the fertile valleys of the Ohio and the Mississippi. This alliance was on one account a fortunate one for the pioneers of Darke County, as it removed the seat of war to distant points. No battle or other important event occurred in this county during the war, although small parties of hostiles were continually prowling about, keeping up the alarm and now and then securing a scalp.

We have spoken of Rush and Studabaker's block-houses, and there were garisons at Jefferson and Greenville, beside a fortified house on the banks of Stillwater, in Richland Township, on Section 34, near the cemetery. One other tragic event recalls the earlier day, the murder of the Wilson girls, in July, 1812. Two children, daughters of William Wilson, residing near Minatown, were out one day gathering wild berries between their home and the creek, when they were set upon and killed. It appeared as if their heads had been dashed against a tree, and their





scalps had been taken. They were buried near where their bodies had been found, and from this period the attention of the reader is called away to measures of peace, law and permanent improvement.

Several dwellings and four block-houses were erected in Greenville, prior to the war of 1812. The houses were all on Water, Walnut and Ash streets, and the block-houses were located as follows: One on Lot No. 59, Main street; a second on the same street; a third on Water Street, beyond the limits of the town, near the old cemetery, and the fourth on what is now Sycamore street, in Gray's Addition, and beyond the early limits of the town.

In the year 1814, Abraham Scribner brought to the place a small stock of dry goods and groceries, and opened a store in the first-named block-house, where he enjoyed quite an extensive patronage. Upon this small lot he erected a dwelling, which still exists, and is used as a residence by Mr. Schubert. Charles Sumpson was also a dealer in merchandise in the village at this time, as were probably Samuel Harmer and Linus Bascom, who were engaged in the dry-goods business in 1816.

At this early period of existence, Greenville was honored as the place of assembly for the agents of the Government, and delegations from various Indian tribes, to consummate a second treaty. This took place on the 22d of July, 1814, and was conducted, on the part of the United States, by Gen. William H. Harrison, who was afterward President, and Gen. Lewis Cass, then Governor of Michigan Territory, together with the friendly and faithful Wyandots, Delawares, Shawnees and Senecas, who were most prominently represented by Capt. Pipe, Tarhe, Little Turtle and Black Hoof and some others. The United States Commissioners made their headquarters at the house of Abraham Scribner, at the northwest corner of Elm and Water streets. At this treaty, the Government agents and the tribes named gave peace to the Miamis, Weas, and Eel River Indians, and to certain of the Pottawatomies, Ottawas, and Kickapoos. All, whether allies or aliens at this treaty, bound themselves to take part with the Americans in case of a continuance of the war with Great Britain. Happily, England and the Republic soon concluded a peace, and the treaty was followed, in 1816, by others with the various Western and Northern tribes, thereby giving to the frontiers quiet and security once again. The speaking at the second Greenville treaty took place in a little grove on the opposite side of the street from Scribner's, on the lot now occupied by the residence of Michael Miller, Esq. According to the testimony of an eye-witness, it was, with a single exception, the largest, most notable meeting ever held in Greenville. The Indians came dressed in all the toilet of their respective tribes—plumes, scalp-lock and paint; all the attendants of barbaric splendor were admirably set off by the more serviceable, if not picturesque, uniforms of the United States soldiers from Cincinnati and Fort Wayne. It was long spoken of by the early settlers, who attended from a distance of many miles, as an occasion of rare occurrence, worthy of commemoration in the annals of the county.

As will be noted later, the consciousness of security at last broke down one formidable barrier to settlement; the refugee settlers returned to their old homes to repair the ravages of time and to renew their labors, while from the older counties; from Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Maryland, the Carolinas, families of emigrants by water, wagon, on horseback and on foot, plodded their way northward from the Ohio, or westward, and quietly settled in and about the older clearings, gladly receiving the proffered assistance of the pioneers. Greenville received its share of population in due proportion. Dry goods were sold by Easton Morris and the Hoods, Robert and William, as also these necessary supplies were for purchase at the establishments of Linus Bascom and Abraham Scribner. The necessity of places of entertainment for man and beast was supplied by the opening of taverns by Azor Scribner and Moses Scott, whose bar for the refreshment of the thirsty was an indispensable adjunct of the early day hostelry. Among citizens





there were old Mr. Devor, Dr. Perrine, unmarried and commencing a practice destined to become extensive and laborious, and John Beers, whose official services were about to be required on occasion of the organization of Greenville as the county seat.

#### THE COUNTY SEAT.

Darke County, as stated, was created by act of the General Assembly January 3, 1809; but, on account of delay in settlement from causes shown, organization was postponed until December 14, 1816, when the actual and promised population warranted an independent government and enabled this section to act for itself.

As has frequently been the case and still continues to be the practice in the new counties of the States just settling up, there were not wanting enterprising and speculative men keenly alive to the pecuniary profits sure to result from ownership of land set apart for a county seat. A strife arose in Darke County, and there was sharp competition for the site of the county seat on the part of various landholders desirous of securing some profit from an advance in values. Enos Terry laid off a town plat on Herdman's farm, over the creek, and by some means had the plat established as the county seat. This act proved almost entirely unsatisfactory, and a pressure was brought to secure its repeal. This was accomplished, and Commissioners were chosen to make the required location. David Briggs was anxious to have it established near the present junction of the Gettysburg and Milton pikes, but a quietus was put upon the proposition by the facetious suggestion of John Studabaker that it would require at least forty Constables to keep the frogs quiet while the Judge was delivering his charge to the grand jury. The location was finally made, as it now stands, at Greenville, by the Board of County Commissioners, in consideration of the acceptance of a proposition made by Mrs. Armstrong to donate the county the one-third of the ninety-six lots constituting the original town plat for such public uses as might be deemed desirable in the future, whether as sites for public buildings or as land for sale outright, upon which to realize funds for county purposes; deed of sale was made to the Commissioners of Miami County, and placed on record upon the register at Troy; those officials then gave a deed of the property to the county of Darke.

The first meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held in June, 1816. The Board consisted of Archibald Bryson, Abraham Studabaker and Silas Atchison. John Beers was appointed Clerk for one year and John Devor was made Tax Collector. His bond was fixed at \$3,000. David Connor, heretofore referred to, was the sole signer of this, the first Treasurer's bond, and his name was considered sufficient. The first act of the new officers was to fix the rate of license for tavern-keepers and storekeepers, which was placed at \$8 for the former and \$10 for the latter. A tax of 30 cents a head was levied on horses and 10 cents a head on cattle. The only roads at this time were the paths made by the Indians, the roads pursued by the armies, and such as were cut by the settlers in moving upon their claims. At this, the first session of the Commissioners, it was "ordered that a road be viewed and surveyed, leading from Greenville across the bridge at Enos Terry's, and thence by the nearest and best route in a direction toward Fort Loramie, until it strikes the county line." David Briggs, David Thompson and Moses Scott were appointed viewers, and John Beers, surveyor. They were ordered to begin their work on the 26th of June, 1817.

On the 3d day of July, the Commissioners ordered Lots 36, 62, 20, 56, 39 and 53, in the town of Greenville to be sold for the purpose of raising funds to build a jail on the public square. These lots were accordingly offered for sale on the second Monday of the following August. The price realized was \$47.75; one-half was paid in cash, the other was given one year's time.

For some reason, perhaps from there being little call for a place for confinement of criminals, the contract for the construction of a jail was not let until 1818, when the work was undertaken by Matthias Dean for \$300; one-half down as an advance, and the remainder when the work was completed and accepted.





It is always of interest to peruse the first records of any association or corporation, as by them we are enabled to learn the ability and character of the men chosen to lead in civil affairs and by comparison with the acts of later years, from an estimate of the growth of improvement, increased wealth, and, in some instances, disproportionate cost. These retrospective pages are generally favorable to the pioneers since they seem to have acted with decision, economy and prudence. To this end, we copy verbatim the record of the first session of the Court of Common Pleas for this County :

"Darke County organized, March 1, 1817. Court of Common Pleas of Darke County, aforesaid, March 13, 1817. Before session, to appoint a Clerk pro tem. and Recorder. Enos Terry, John Purviance and James Rush, Esquires, Associate Judges, as appears by their commissions. John Beers was appointed Clerk pro tem., to give bond 7th of April next. The appointment of Recorder was postponed till 7th of April next. Court adjourned until April 7, to meet at the home of Moses Scott, at Greenville. Signed, Enos Terry." These few lines, brief as they are, present the minutes, in full, of the first special term, and are a marked contract, in simplicity, with the verbiage of later special terms.

The next session was held, pursuant to adjournment, as shown by the following complete transcript of the proceedings :

"Common Pleas met agreeable to adjournment. The same judges as on the 13th of March last. John Beers resigned his appointment of Clerk pro tem., and Linus Bascom was appointed Clerk pro tem., in his room. Abraham Scribner appointed Recorder. Court adjourned without day. Signed, Enos Terry." The first regular term of the Court of Common Pleas was in June, 1817. Joseph H. Crane, of Dayton, was the first Presiding Judge, with the associates above named. They all produced commissions, signed by Thomas Worthington, Governor of Ohio, and at once entered upon the performance of their duties. The records show no grand jury in attendance at this first term, for the good reason, as the minutes show, that there was "no Sheriff, Coroner or other officer qualified to serve and return process," and that there had been "no *venire facias* for a grand jury served and returned." These facts having been officially made known to the court, it was "ordered that a *venire facias* issue, directed to Moses Scott," who was especially authorized and empowered to serve and return, commanding him to summon fifteen good and lawful men of the county, to appear forthwith, at our court house in Greenville, to serve as grand jurors; upon which writ the said Moses Scott returned that he had summoned John Loring, John Andrews, James Cloyd, Daniel Potter, Robert Douglas, Abraham Miller, Filder G. Lenham, Daniel Holley, Joseph Townsend, James Williamson, John Ryerson, David Briggs, Levi Elston, Martin Ruple and Peter Rush, who, being chosen and sworn and charged, retired to their room." Few are left who had a personal acquaintance with these men; and they, the first Darke County grand jurymen ever impaneled, have long since passed away. The latest survivor was James Cloyd, who was a resident of German Township, and died, at a ripe old age, a few years before the civil war.

We again quote from the minutes : "The court appointed Henry Bacon to act as prosecutor, on behalf of the State of Ohio, for the county of Darke, until the further order of the court thereon. The grand jury found several indictments at this term. Among others, there was one against Robert Hood, for "selling whisky to the Indians." Another indictment was found against William R. Jones, for assault and battery, it being alleged and proved that he had flogged an eaves-dropper for peeping through the cracks of the log cabin at the grand jury, while they were holding their session. The Constable was convicted and fined \$8 and costs. This may have been right, but the fellow deserved what he got, and the Constable was not wanting in the discharge of his duty. His ignorance of legal technicalities and his zeal outran his discretion, and his punishment by fine and dismissal was severe.

The various defendants to several indictments found were duly arraigned, and, as a matter of course, entered a plea of "not guilty." Matters were now brought





to a dead halt, as a reference to the record showed "no persons returned to serve as petit jurors." Acting Sheriff Scott was, therefore, at once ordered to "summon twelve good and lawful men of said county to serve as petit jurors," upon which writ the said Moses Scott returned that he had summoned Charles Sumption, John McFarlin, James Williamson, John Break, Charles Read, Jacob Miller, William Montgomery, Robert McIntyre, James Perry, Aaron Dean, Alexander Smith and Zachariah Hull." Of these, the first petit jury ever impaneled in Darke County, none are known to be living. The latest survivor, so far as ascertained, was John McFarlin, of the township of Jackson. At the close of this term, the following entry was placed on record: "The court allows Henry Bacon, Prosecutor for Darke County, \$10, for services at this term."

On the second Monday of August, 1817, Moses Scott presented his commission from the Governor, as Sheriff, and gave a bond of \$4,000. On the same day, William Montgomery presented his commission as Coroner, and gave a bond for \$2,000. There were two courts a year. Each term lasted but one or two days. It took a ride over nearly the entire county to summons men enough to make up the two juries. The grand jury rarely sat more than one day. Services were paid for in county orders, which were current in exchanges, at 50 cents cash on the dollar, as there was no money in the treasury. The allowance to each grand juror was 75 cents per day; the petit juror was paid but half a dollar, but received this on each trial, and this was paid by the *winning party*.

The first court had been held in the bar-room of Azor Scribner, and as was just and fair, the second was appointed for the 14th of November, 1817, in the bar-room of Scott's Tavern. The first case called was an action for debt, in which Anthony Ricard appeared as defendant. The Clerk's fees were \$2.50; those of the Sheriff were \$1.17, and of the Attorney, \$5—making a total of \$8.67. At this time, William, son of Moses Scott, had been elected Sheriff. The tavern, in those days, was the place for assembly to exchange items of news, join in a sociable glass and partake perhaps of the plain but abundant fare offered.

The event of a court was a novelty, and a number of the settlers gathered about and curiously observed the proceedings. A panel of grand jurors, among whom was John S. Hiller, was sworn in, as a matter of course, and received the charge from Judge Crane, then on the circuit. Gen. James Mills was foreman, and the party was conducted to Azor Scribner's bar-room, and duly furnished by the hospitable inn-keeper with a bottle of good whisky and a pitcher of water. Soon a man was admitted who testified that he had been assaulted, wounded, beat and otherwise ill-treated. On his retirement, another entered, who witnessed that his predecessor before the jury had committed a like offense upon him. The case was by no means a clear one. The foreman was about to take the sense of the jury, when he announced that "it had been rulable in Butler County, where he came from, to require the youngest jurymen to vote first." This chanced to be Hiller, who naturally entered an objection, saying that as this was his first experience on a jury, he did not wish to be forward in giving an opinion. The bottle was then brought into requisition, and after disposing of the liquor to general satisfaction, the case was formally decided. At the close of the day, the jury was discharged and court adjourned *sine die*.

#### COUNTY BUILDINGS.

A laudable pride is manifested in the matter of public building, and this has kept pace with the growth of resources. In the beginning, the aim was low taxes, strict economy in public expenditure and a desire to pay the county debt. The new county had entered upon its career houseless, roadless and bridgeless, yet the average tax did not exceed \$3.

We have noted the construction of a jail. The Commissioners, at the time of letting the contract, in 1818, were A. Studabaker, A. Bryson and Jacob Miller.





Easton Morris was Clerk and James Devor was Auditor. Miller had succeeded Atchinson. The Commissioners cast lots for duration of term. Miller drew one year, Bryson two years and Studabaker three. The annual exhibit for the year 1820, of receipts and expenditures of the county, were as follows: Received from Moses Scott, Tax Collector, \$446.05½; on notes and costs of roads, \$185.64½; and of A. Scribner, tavern license, \$10; fines, \$16.50; license, \$32; permits, \$10.69; total, \$59.19. Total, \$700.89. Expenditures, by orders redeemed, \$708.82.

The letting of the first court house was an affair of minor moment. The contract was taken by John Craig, whose work was accepted on June 4, 1824. This humble frame building, surrounded rear and front with additions, stands on Third street, next the Odd Fellows' Building, and now of *fifty-six* years' duration, has served the purposes of a dwelling a period of forty years.

On Sunday morning, May 2, 1827, the log jail that stood on the public square, just back of where the city hall now stands, from some cause, had caught fire and burned down.

On the 29th of June following, a contract was let for the construction of a jail building to John Armstrong, for \$525. It was originally intended to erect this structure on the east corner of the public square, but at a special session of the Board of County Commissioners, held September 13, 1827, a petition was presented, asking for the location of the jail on Lot 25. This was granted, and on June 3, 1828, this the second jail was received from the contractor, under a compromise, at \$520. In 1830, the public revenues were augmented by the levy of a tax on doctors and lawyers—the former having been assessed at \$3, and the latter a half-dollar less. It would be a gratification to learn on what grounds this tax was assessed, whether as a tax on incomes from the amount of business and good fees collected, or as a method of repression. If for the latter reason, it proved a signal failure; not but that among this class have been and are found the most gifted and valued citizens in Darke County, but from the number who have chosen these mind-perplexing professions.

The increased business of the county called for a better public building, and, to this end the Commissioners met on January 7, 1833, to make selection of a court-house site. The location was made upon the center of the public square. Bids were advertised for, and on February 18 following the contract for erecting the building was let to James Craig for \$2,490. The plan of the proposed structure was prepared by Allan La Motte, who received in compensation \$10.

The services of the Commissioners, during the five sessions held for the purpose of selecting the site, receiving bids, awarding contract and attending to minor matters, were donated to the county—a circumstance memorable for its rarity. The contractor was allowed an extra compensation of \$27.20 for supplying pine shingles instead of oak, and \$7.43 for sand, thus making the entire cost of the building \$2,524.63. It stood forty years, and was of the type common to the times—two stories in height, roof four-square, and surmounted by a cupola.

Eleven years following the erection of this court house, on the 17th of April, 1844, the contract was let for a new jail to James C. Reed, for \$3,800, but a failure was made in the matter of a sufficient bond; the next best bid was taken, and the contract was finally awarded to Allan La Motte and Israel Reed, for \$3,975. This jail was built on the southeast half of Lot 25, and was received from the contractor June 3, 1845. The extras allowed amounted to \$21. The building is now in use as a place of business, having a front erected flush with the sidewalk and hiding it from public view, and, unless destroyed by fire, promises many years good service. Arrangements looking to the establishment of a county infirmary for the care of infirm, sick and disabled poor were made by the purchase, on March 18, 1854, by the County Commissioners, of a county farm containing 24½ acres—the price paid being \$6,000. Plans and specifications for the necessary buildings were prepared and presented by Pearson Smith, who received \$25 for the





*John M. Finess*

MONROE TP.





*Charles H. Johnson*

1911-1912

same. These plans were subsequently amended by Messrs. William Wells and Moses Hart. The contract for building the infirmary was let on May 17, 1854, to Orin S. Culbertson & Co., for \$7,198, with an additional sum of \$88 for excavating for foundations. Work was completed and the building was received from contractors on January 31, 1856. Variation from the terms of the contract involved additional expense of \$1,260.67, thus making the entire cost of the work \$8,458.67.

The Darke County Poor Farm was deeded by John Spray to the County Commissioners at the time above stated. It is located two and a half miles south of Greenville, upon both sides of the Greenville & Eaton Pike, upon the southeast quarter, and about twenty-nine acres of the southeast corner of the southwest quarter, and eight acres on the northeast corner of the southwest quarter of Section 11, Township 12, Greenville Township, and about forty-one acres—part of the north half of the northwest quarter of Section 14, Township 11. The original building was a three-story brick structure, 40x84 feet, and 28 feet in height. In 1875-76, an addition was made equal to the original building, thereby doubling its capacity. There are now seventy-two rooms, including the cell department. A laundry has also been added, 20x30, two stories, and an engine-house 18x30 feet, separate from the main building. The basement is mostly used for culinary and other domestic purposes. The second story is comfortably furnished, and does not present that repellant, forbidding aspect supposed by many persons to be inseparable from the county house. The buildings are advantageously located on high ground, and command a fine view of the surrounding country.

The officers are a Superintendent and three Infirmary Directors. The following is the roster of Superintendents: Jacob Shively, who served three years; David Thompson, six years; William Thompson, five years; Crawford Eddington, seven years, and J. N. Braden, who is now serving on his third year. The Superintendents are annually elected. The first Directors were C. Harshey, John S. Hiller and Joel Thomas. The present Directors are William Shaffer, J. A. Kelch and Samuel Emerick.

The first inmate was received March 1, 1856. That year, the average number received was but eighteen. On March 1, 1880, the number of inmates was 106. There are accommodations for 130. The infirmary building proper has cost \$11,500. The present value of buildings, farm and improvements is estimated at \$30,000. The number of acres under cultivation is 190. The value of what was raised on the farm in 1879 was \$2,400. The expense of keeping up the institution was for the same period \$7,950. The balance in excess of income was therefore \$5,550. The average expense for the last eight years above income has been nearly \$7,000, as we are informed by the present Superintendent. Material improvements are being made upon the farm. Tile to the extent of 400 rods has been put down within the last two years. Fruit trees have been set out, and other advantageous progress made. The orchard product last year was 450 bushels of apples—an amount fully equal to the requirements of the infirmary. There were raised on the farm, 1,295 bushels of wheat, 578 of oats, 5 of clover seed, 3,300 of corn, 1,050 of potatoes, and 5,500 heads of cabbage. Sixty-eight hogs were killed, making 18,000 pounds of pork, and 9 beeves, making 4,250 pounds of beef. There are 42 head of cattle on the farm, 5 horses, and 140 head of hogs.

In proportion to the population of the county, negroes form much the largest per cent of the infirmary inmates. Next in number are the Irish, but it is a curious fact that the per cent of Irish women is very small. To quote the exact language of the Superintendent, "Nine out of ten of all the inmates who have come have been brought here through intemperance; some of them through accidents received while drunk." There are fourteen idiotic persons in the institution, four of whom do not know enough to feed themselves, and must be waited upon like small children. The health of the inmates has been uniformly good. A





single death has occurred among the old occupants within a year. There have been four deaths in all, but three of these were brought thither sick.

The infirmary physicians are the Drs. Matchett. The entire number of paupers in the institution on August 31, 1879, was 114; the number admitted during the year was 193; the number of poor otherwise supported by the county was 150. According to the report of the Auditor, the total cost of keeping the infirmary poor was \$8,314.49, and the entire expense of maintaining those elsewhere was \$1,940.05, thus making an expense of poor for the year of 1879 a grand total of \$10,254.54, or an average cost per day of each pauper to the county of 26 cents.

It is pleasant to contemplate the humane consideration now manifested for these unfortunates as compared with their condition during the earlier years of county government. Prior to the establishment of the infirmary in 1854, there was no place where their helplessness could find kindness and care; under the prevalent custom of "farming out" the paupers to the lowest bidder, the unfortunate was made to suffer in many ways, and it did not conduce to wholesome fare, warm clothing and sufficient rest, with exemption from labor, and medical care when sick, to have been sold under competition to persons whose object was less the amelioration of their condition than the hope and intention to profit from the investment. The history in detail of this infirmary and others similar is encouraging proof of the development of charitable and noble impulses, which render the unostentatious benevolence and philanthropy of peace more to be admired and honored than the most glorious deeds of war.

The present jail and Sheriff's residence has been standing about ten years. The contract for building was let in September, 1869, to Jonathan Kenney, of Dayton, Ohio, for \$39,750. Miles Greenwood, of Cincinnati, did the iron work, and Alexander Kerr, of Greenville, the carpenter and joiner work. The two buildings are connected by a hall, and their extent is ninety-seven feet in length by forty-four in width. The buildings are of two stories, with neat freestone finish. The residence is an elegant structure, and the jail is admirably arranged to secure the comfort and safe-keeping of prisoners. This property is situated upon Broadway. The court house is an ornament to the city, and an honor to the county. The edifice was completed in 1874 at a cost of \$170,000, and the dedication was formally made on August 3 of that year. The material used in building is stone. The Corinthian style of architecture prevails, but with such additions and modifications as to render difficult any attempt at strict classification. In reply to inquiry, an architect classed it as "Corinthian with American treatment."

Whatever it may be termed, it presents to the eye an ornate and imposing appearance. Ascending the stone platform, you push aside a door and enter a corridor extending down the center and length of the building. Furnaces supply uniform and agreeable temperature; offices are located for public convenience. Large iron safes stand to the left as you pass from the front entry. The first rooms to the right in order are the offices of the Board of Commissioners, the Auditor and of the Treasurer. These are spacious, convenient, and fitted up with necessary furniture and apparatus. The treasury vault with inclosed safe would seem to place the public moneys in actual security. On the left from the front, are the offices of the Recorder and Probate Judge, and the Probate Court room. Ascend from either side by winding stairways, and there are found on the second floor the offices of the Sheriff and the Clerk, together with the court room and its attendant consultation and jury rooms. On the third floor are located the Surveyor's and Prosecuting Attorney's offices, and other needful rooms. The structure is surmounted by a fine tower, in which is contained a clock that is as nearly perfect in construction as modern science and artistic skill can produce. Whether borne upon the ear in the hours of night, or calling the industrious populace to resume or cease from toil, by day, the musical, measured strokes which knell the passing hours, teach a constant lesson of punctuality, diligence and transient existence.



We close our chapter with a brief statement relative to the trial and conviction of Monroe Roberson for the murder of Wiley Coulter, since it has attracted general attention, and is remarkable in the annals of the courts of Darke County. Crime has had its votaries here as elsewhere, but in no undue proportion. Murders have been committed, and there have been trials, convictions and escapades, but this becomes historical from the fact that it is the first instance where the dread conclusion has been a sentence of death on the gallows.

The difficulty between the two men that led to the murder occurred at Niptown, a point nine and a half miles from Greenville. Following some hard language, Coulter, while attempting to make his escape, was pursued and fired upon by Roberson. Three several and deliberate shots were discharged, and Coulter fell to the ground mortally wounded, and soon died. His assailant was taken to Greenville, tried at the February term, 1880, and sentenced to be hung on July 18 of the same year. The doomed man was a native of Tennessee, forty-five years of age, had served in the army, was a hard drinker and had lived about twelve years in the county. His victim was his wife's brother, who had lived from childhood in the family, and was at the time of his death, about twenty-three years old. The jurors impaneled for this trial were Stephen Eubank, G. W. Fox, C. T. Pickett, Samuel Cole, George Suman, Milton Coble, Samuel Noggle, B. F. Gilbert, James Benson, Cornelius Fry, William Bleare and James Johnson.

The attorneys for the defense were Messrs. Anderson, Allen, Calderwood and Charles Calkins; for the State, Prosecuting Attorney H. Calkins, and Messrs. Knox and Sater. The case was tried before Judge Meeker, whose charge to the jury is a plain, direct statement of the laws on murder. The prisoner was adjudged guilty, and sentence pronounced upon him. The community, while desirous that crime be punished, differ in regard to the mode, and no inconsiderable portion of the better class are averse to hanging.

#### DARKE COUNTY FROM 1816 TO 1824—PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT.

Turning again from the seat of government to the farms which give villages and cities their vitality and importance, we follow the early progress of agriculture from the organization of the county up to and inclusive of 1824. We may speak somewhat of the arduous labors of the early settlers, describe their log cabins, recall their old-fashioned furniture, their homespun attire, their rough, kind manners and their open-handed generosity. The comfortable hewed-log home has been demolished to make way for the frame or the more durable brick. The fence of rails will soon disappear, and already the work of log-rolling is a memory, and the making of rails exceptional. Village, town and city have been built to supply the demands of trade and commerce, and the people of the present time, worthy offspring of noble sires, have carried forward the works of civilization.

Glance again at the points of settlement, the vantage-ground already won. Below Ithaca, in the southeast, lived Lucas and Robbins. At intervals along Miller's Fork, near Castine, were Ellis, Freeman, Park and Robert Phillips and J. F. Miller. On the east bank of the Whitewater stood the cabins of Brawley, Purviance, the McCluers, Broderick and Jacob Miller, Zadoc Smith and the Wades. Near Fort Black, by the lake, were the Rushes, Henry Hardy, Tibbs, Falkner and possibly the Kunkles. On the Middle Fork were the Tillsons, Harlans, Emerson, Helpenstein and Gert. Approaching the town, we find Spencer, the Edwards families, Wilsons and others. Further to the north we come to Cloyd, Pearson, Cassaday and Kettring. About Palestine, dwelt Samuel Loring. In the northern part of German Township lived Ludwig Clapp, reputed credulous and superstitious, William Asher, of the same mind, Moores and Rush and John McNeil, Rarick, Snell and Miller, on Crout Creek and its vicinity. East of the West Branch dwelt Martin Ruple, Arch. Bryson and John W. Whittaker, while lower down were the small clearings made by John Hiller and Daniel Potter. Mud Creek passed





by the cabin homes of Peter Weaver, Andrew Noppinger, his son Joseph, James and Henry Rush, Sumption, McGinnis, Burns and Wertz. East of the prairie, Zadoc and Reagan had located, and traveling the stream brought in sight the homes of Abraham Studabaker and Abraham Miller. James Hay dwelt at Jefferson, and below were Ryerson and Winegardner. On Greenville Creek, above town, stood three cabins occupied by Ullery, Dean and David Williamson, and below on the creek were those of Squire Briggs, Westfall, Maj. Adams, Bryan, Cunningham and Studabaker. On the south bank of the creek, at intervals, the enumerator finds Popejoy, Esq., Hayes, James Gregory and Carnahan. Christopher Martin, Alexander Fleming, James Roff, David Ripple and his sons and son-in-law Hathaway on Stillwater, near Beamsville. Conlock was at Webster, and McDonald, Mote and Ludwig Christie below. Ward Atchison was on the verge of the Black Swamp, and Lewis Baker on Indian Creek. From Bridge Creek on to the dividing branch, were scattered Arnold Townsend, the Thompsons and Clay. These men had settled here under many difficult circumstances, but they had effected a lodgment and formed a center by which others could be guided and assisted. Persistent in labor, patient under afflictions of disease were these plain men with unaffected manner and kindly greetings. As the country began to be settled, families were moving on to different locations in the central part of the county. There was a large portion of the county that seemed so much of a swamp as to make a final occupation problematical. Along Greenville Creek, as above named, one found at varying distances the log cabins of a few families, and there were others on the West Branch. There were cabins on the branch known as Crout Creek, and yet others upon Mud Creek. These scattered clearings were the oldest in the county, and northward there were few, if any. And from there, so far as means would permit, the new-comers received their supplies and assistance. Courteously and kindly, the tired emigrants were welcomed to the hospitalities of their cabins. Wherever at night the light of a fire shining among the trees indicated a settler's home, there was a certainty that the latch-string was hanging out and hearty cheer in readiness to relieve them. A common peril and a like experience bound all together by ties of interest, friendship and relation. The disposition to extend a helping hand, while it was a necessity to the settler, was rarely given grudgingly or with thoughts of after payment. Equality and mutual assistance was an unwritten pioneer law, and for many years much of the time of older settlers was cheerfully given to raisings, rollings and all kinds of work requiring co-operation. Judge Wharry attended raisings where men had come from a distance, on farthest lines apart, of twenty-five miles, and here were formed acquaintances which soon ripened into feelings warm, generous and enduring.

Exceptional instances, as that of Jacob Cox, present us with men of means seeking an heritage in lands, but the people were generally poor. They had nothing to lose but much to gain. Mr. Cox, as we have named, is worthy of further notice in this connection. He came to Darke from Redstone and bought 2,200 acres in the east part of German and Washington Townships, and thereon located himself and sons Martin, John, Jacob, Henry and Abraham, together with his daughters Barbara, Mary and Eve, who later became known as Mrs. Stingley, Mrs. Waggoner and Mrs. Martin.

Fresh from service in the ranks, and animated by hope of a common glorious future for his country and himself, the rifle which had aided Wayne upon the Maumee and Harrison at the Thames, became useful to provide the family with meat and to guard the growing or ripened grain from depredation. There was no longer dread of the forest; men struck out by themselves and independently chose and improved such spots as met their fancy. The extent of each man's claim or title had no bearing on degree of estimation. It mattered not that one could buy but forty acres, while another could acquire a section. The difference lay, not in the men, but in the outlay. Where each had planted a few acres in corn and other crops, nature showed no partiality in stimulating growth or perfecting the grain.





and where nature was impartial, human customs were in strict and willing accord. The entire settlements were bound together. Witness the prompt rally from Lexington and Piqua on hearing of Rush's death and the frontier peril. They met at various gatherings. Together they worked their best; together they enjoyed their hours of relaxation. Religious worship found general and all-day attendance, and there were several services before each wended his way along the forest path homeward.

The pioneers of Darke were not peculiar in their love for neighborhood visiting. The same partially obsolete but happy custom was in that early day to be observed in all the new communities, and surviving pioneers have brought this habit with them in their attenuated and shattered ranks. It looks as though the practice would perish with them. Care for the sick was universal. It was held to be the duty of all. The writer recalls, in this connection, the kind, tender tone in which Lemuel Rush inquired of his fellow-friend and pioneer associate, George Arnold, concerning his health, and the fraternal feeling manifested between these two is but a single illustration of general regard.

A single incident, recited by an old settler, images the earnest regard shown in the early days by neighbors for each other:

One day, a settler was badly injured when at a considerable distance from his home. It was necessary that a team should be taken to convey him home. Although a full day's drive, there was no reluctance in offering help. Two persons tendered their services, and there ensued a friendly contest for the *privilege*. The older urged a long acquaintance and neighborship, and these claims were acknowledged by the other.

In 1818, there was the commencement of a settlement on the east fork of Whitewater, and on Twin Creek, near Ithaca, and several families had settled near Fort Black, now known as New Madison. During this year, Mina town and Fort Jefferson were laid out, and, in the year following, Versailles was platted, making in all five villages, the germs of future business towns, and the only ones for full a dozen years—practical proof, in so large a county, of sparse and tardy occupation.

During the year when Fort Jefferson was platted, a tavern stand was occupied there, and, while the conveniences were far from equal to the Turpen or Wagner Houses of to-day, yet there was an abundance of plain, palatable food and little ceremony. During 1818, A. Studabaker left his former entry, near Gettysburg, and removed to the farm more recently the property of his son George. William Arnold and others were residing on Bridge Creek. The settlements now became known by various names to distinguish them; such was "Yankee Town," one called Ireland, located north of Greenville, and a third is mentioned here as suggestive of the section, known as the Black Swamp Settlement. These nuclei of the clearings in Darke, each formed a distinct neighborhood, and had their leading men, respected for honesty, good faith, and frugality in public as well as private affairs.

In 1820, Darke County was still covered by a dense and but little broken forest. The northern townships were extended areas of swamp, rich in elements of production, useless until the clearing and drainage could make cultivation practicable. Cabins were built upon the higher grounds, and clearings made down the inclinations. Here grew the oak, whitewood, beech, maple, basswood, ash, hickory and other kinds of timber in boundless profusion, and the finest trees were regarded rather as an incubas to tillage than as valuable adjuncts of a farm. Those woods are mainly leveled now, and their grove screens of trees but veil the open fields beyond. Still the trees, while in one sense a bar to cropping land, were useful as containing the material for home and winter fires. When a settler had selected the site of his intended habitation, he felled the timber upon it and cut the logs suitable in proper lengths. The material for the cabin being prepared, he traverses the woods far and near and announces his intended raising. The settlers leave their work and gather in at the appointed hour. In some localities, teams were used,



but here in Darke, cattle were scarce and the horses were spared as much as possible for other work. Logs were carried to the sides and ends of the building. Now four corner-men are chosen, on whom devolves the duty of notching and placing the logs. The rest of those assembled roll up the logs as wanted until the desired height is reached and the work of co-operation ceases. The settler now selects a large-sized straight-grained tree and, felling it, cuts off four-foot lengths. These are split with a large Frow, and as wide as the timber will allow. These are used without planing or shaving for clapboards for the roof, which is formed by making the end logs shorter each row until a single log forms the comb of the roof; on these logs the clapboards were placed, the ranges of them lapping some distance over those next below them, and kept in their places by logs placed at proper distances upon them. Puncheons for the floor were made by splitting logs of a foot and a half in diameter, and hewing the face of them with a broad-ax, when this tool could be obtained. The length of the puncheons was half that of the floor. The door was made by sawing or cutting the logs in on one side, so as to make an opening about three feet wide. The opening was secured by upright pieces of timber, about three inches thick, through which holes were bored into the ends of the logs for the purpose of pinning them fast. A similar, but wider, opening was made at the end for the chimney. This was built of logs and made large to admit of a back and jambs of stone. At the square, two end logs were made to project a foot or more beyond the wall, to receive what were called the butting poles, against which the ends of the first row of clapboards was supported. A clapboard door and a table were then made. Sometimes a quilt was made to do duty for the former for a time, and the latter was constructed of a split slab, placed upon four round legs set in auger holes. Stools having three legs were made in the same way. Some pins inserted in holes bored in the logs at the back of the room, served as support for some clapboards, designed as shelves for the dishes. A single fork, placed with its lower end in a hole in the floor, and the upper end fastened to a joint, served as a bedstead, by placing a pole in the fork with one end through a crack between the logs of the wall. This front pole was crossed by a shorter one within the fork, with its outer end through another crack. From the front pole, through a crack between the logs of the end of the house, the boards forming the bottom of the bed were put in place. Sometimes this was varied by pinning other poles to the fork, a little distance above these, for the purpose of supporting the front and foot of the bed, while the walls were the support of its back and head. A few pegs around the walls for the garments of the women and hunting-shirts of the men, and two small forks or buck's horns fixed to a joint for the rifle and shot-pouch, completed the carpenter work.

Chips are now taken and driven in between the logs and the open spaces of the chimney, and a bed of clay mortar having been prepared, the cracks were daubed, and the work is done. In houses thus built, and unplastered within and entirely devoid of adornment, our ancestors lived with a comfort unknown to the opulent occupant of many a palatial residence of to-day. Coal stoves or wood stoves were unknown, but in the wide fireplace were found hooks and trammel, and andirons. Near by were the bake-pan and the kettle; and as homes varied there were to be seen in many a log house the plain deal table, the flag-bottom chair, and the easy, straight, high-backed rocker. Carpets there were none. The beds contained no mattress, springs, or even bed-cord, the couch was often spread upon the floor, and sleeping apartments were separated by hanging blankets. Not infrequently, the emigrant neighbor, and occasionally Indian visitor, lay upon blankets or robes before the huge open fireplace, with stockinged or moccasined feet before the constant fire. Wooden vessels, either turned or coopered, were commonly used for the table. A tin cup was an article of luxury almost as rare as an iron fork. Gourds were used at the water bucket, and there were not always knives enough to go around the family. The immigrant brought with him, packed upon the horse, or later on the wagon, some articles of better sort.





Upon the kitchen drawers were set forth a shiny row of pewter plates, buck-handled knives, iron or pewter spoons, or there were seen a row of blue-edged earthen ware, with corresponding cups and saucers, with teapot—articles then to grace the table at the quilting, social afternoon visit, or preacher's call; but advancing civilization has sent the plates and spoons to the melting pot, while knives and forks have taken less substance but more shapely form. Perchance a corner of the room was occupied by a tall Dutch clock, such as ticks with measured stroke the minutes by in the kitchen of John Spayd, of Greenville, to-day.

In another corner, the ruder furniture had given place to an old-fashioned high-post and corded bedstead, covered with quilts—a wonder of patchwork ingenuity and laborious sewing. Then the ubiquitous spinning-wheel, and not unfrequently a loom. A settler of Darke in 1820, thus describes the dwellings of that date: "They were of round logs about ten inches through: they were properly notched at the corners, and well chinked and plastered up with clay mortar, and provided in some instances with front and back door; basswood logs, split in two, flat side up, made a very substantial floor; the fireplace reached nearly across one end; a stone wall from the foundation was carried up about six feet, two sticks of the proper crook rested one on either end of the wall, and against a beam overhead, forming the jams, and upon these rested the chimney, made of sticks and clay mortar, very wide at the bottom, tapering to the top, and serving the purpose of both chimney and smoke-house; the hearth was of flat stones of various sizes, and occupied a considerable portion of the room. To build a winter fire, there first was brought in a large piece of log which was placed next the chimney-back, and known as the back-log; next came a somewhat smaller log, which was placed on the other and called the back-stick; then came two round sticks, green and less combustible than the others; these were placed endwise against the back-log, and served in place of the more modern andirons. Upon them was laid the fore-stick, and between this and the back-log, dry limbs were piled in and the fire applied; when this was fairly started more wood was put on and a pile to keep it up lay near by. The fire thus built, which was done about 4 o'clock of a winter day's afternoon, would last a long time with little attention, keeping the family, clothed in good, warm homespun, comfortably warm." If, by mischance, the fire went out on the hearth, it was rekindled by a coal or burning brand from a neighbor, or by flint, steel and tinder. In many cabins, the fire described gave out but partial warmth, and the group which sat around it were roasting on one side while freezing on the other. Few, indeed, were the books to be found with the settlers, and newspapers were rarer still. Upon the shelf, there may have lain the few books used at school, the Bible and the almanac, and the paper, when one could be had, was read at evening hours by the light of a tallow dip, or before the glowing hearth-fire.

Only the well to do (and these were few in Darke) could afford a clock. The hour of noon was guessed or may be ascertained by the noon-mark cut upon the threshold, and in place of the bell to call the chopper from the clearing, a cheery shout was given, or tin horn blown. Few were the households where any pictures adorned the wall, and the reed organ had not been invented.

To-day, even the children carry watches; print, engraving, chromo and lithograph are found in more or less profusion in most houses, and piano and organ are in the country as well as in every village.

The habits of the settlers were influenced and controlled by their mode of life. Tasks almost impossible as thought of now, were undertaken spiritedly with no thoughts of time or labor. Chopping in the clearings for days alone, and preparing a home to which to bring his family, many a settler became accustomed to the silence, and himself grew taciturn.

Journeys on foot for many miles were made with little more of preparation than the traveler makes at present. Women and children rode on horseback





hundred of miles. It was a delight to the settlers to assemble at some one of the log cabins of a winter evening to relate stories of escapes and wild adventures during the sanguinary scenes of '94 and later years. Prominent ideas survive the lapse of time, and the conversation of the aged backwoodsmen, referring to the pioneer period, is of deer, wolf and bear; of trapping, hunting and fishing; of prevailing diseases and makeshifts during sickness; of cutting roads, clearing lands, and journeys to distant mills and markets.

The subject of food was all important with the settler, and hard labor in the open air created a keen appetite which made of much account the feasts of merry-makings, parties and public meetings. Quality was not so much regarded as quantity. Fish from the creek, venison and bear meat, bacon, and even the raccoon's carcass, were made available for food. Enormous potpies were baked containing fowls, squirrels and due proportions of other meats. The food was generally most wholesome and nutritive. There was a bounteous supply of the richest milk, the finest butter and most palatable meat that could be imagined, and meals were eaten with all the relish which healthful vigor, backed by labor, could bestow.

The clothing worn in early days was generally the same in all seasons. The settler, standing upon the prostrate trunk of a huge tree, stroke following stroke of his keen ax, and chip after chip whirring out upon the snow, little regarded the winter temperature, and coatless and barefooted, the summer heat was not oppressive. The garments worn were mainly the product of home manufacture, where necessity insured effort, and practice gave skill.

Flax has been raised in Darke from the period of early settlement down to the present time, and when sheep were introduced, there was supplied a new and excellent material for wearing apparel.

It is said of Creviston and others of his class, besides not a few of the pioneers, that their garments about the years whereof we write, were truly described in the "Annals of the West," as follows: "The hunting-shirt was universally worn. This was a kind of loose frock, reaching half-way down to the thighs, with large sleeves open before, and so wide as to lap over a foot or more when belted. The cape was large, and sometimes handsomely fringed with a ravelled piece of cloth of different color from that of the hunting shirt itself. The bosom of his dress served as a wallet to hold a chunk of bread, cakes, jerk, tow for wiping the barrel of the rifle, or any other thing necessary for the hunter. The belt, which was always tied behind, answered several purposes, besides that of holding the dress together. In cold weather the mittens, and sometimes the bullet-bag occupied the front part of it. To the right side, hung the hatchet; to the left, in its leather sheath, was the hunting knife. The hunting-shirt was made of linsey, sometimes of coarse linen, and some few were made of dried deerskin. These last were very cold and uncomfortable in wet weather. The shirt and jacket were of the common pattern. A pair of breeches and leggings were the dress of the thighs and legs; a pair of moccasins answered for the feet much better than shoes. They were made of dressed deerskin. They were mostly made of a single piece, with a gathering seam along the top of the foot, and another from the bottom of the heel without gathers, as high as the ankle-joint, or a little higher. Flaps were left on each side to reach some distance up the legs. They were nicely adapted to the ankles and lower part of the leg by thongs of deerskin, so that no dirt, gravel or snow, could get within the moccasin.

"The moccasins, in ordinary run, cost but a few hours' labor to make them. This was done by aid of a instrument denominated a moccasin awl, which was made of the back-spring of an old clasp-knife. This awl, with its buck-horn handle, was an appendage of every shot-pouch strap, together with a roll of buckskin, for mending the moccasins. This was the labor of almost every evening. They were sewed together and patched with deerskin throngs, or whangs, as they were commonly called. In cold weather, the moccasins were well stuffed with deer's

The first of these was the discovery of gold in California in 1848. This discovery led to a great influx of people into California, and the state became one of the most populous in the Union. The discovery of gold also led to the discovery of silver in Nevada, and the state became one of the most populous in the Union. The discovery of gold and silver led to the discovery of copper in Arizona, and the state became one of the most populous in the Union. The discovery of gold and silver led to the discovery of copper in Arizona, and the state became one of the most populous in the Union. The discovery of gold and silver led to the discovery of copper in Arizona, and the state became one of the most populous in the Union.

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hair, or dry leaves, so as to keep the feet comfortably warm, but in wet weather it was usually said the wearing them was 'a decent way of going barefooted;' and such was the fact, owing to the spongy texture of the leather of which they were made.

"Owing to the defective covering of the feet, more than to any other circumstance, the greater number of hunters were afflicted with rheumatism in their limbs. Of this disease they were all apprehensive in cold or wet weather, and therefore always slept with their feet to the fire, to prevent or cure it, as well as they could. This practice unquestionably had a very salutary effect, and prevented many of them from becoming confirmed cripples in early life." This description, while of interest as revealing the shifts of the times, also brings that period near to us, and so dispels, by evident accompanying discomforts, the glamour gathered about the buckskin garments of the forest dwellers of the early day.

Rude covering of deerskin gradually gave way to suits of linen and woolen. Sheep required much care to protect them from wolves, and the cash price of the coarsest wool was half a dollar per pound. One or two acres of land were sown to flax, expressly for lint. When ripe, the young people were invited, as to a frolic, and the flax was speedily pulled, and then such as had no religious scruples against dancing, remained after supper, to enjoy an hour or so in the pleasures of the dance.

Months of hard labor were required to earn a suit of clothes, and the use of boots and shoes was dispensed with by men now affluent, until long after the first falls of snow. The price for an ordinary pair of cowhide boots was \$7, and this was paid in produce, at low rates.

The flax prepared for the wheel, now rarely seen, and the loom, was spun and woven by the mothers and the daughters, and with the woolen yarn were made up into warm, serviceable garments. The buzz of the spinning-wheel and the double shake of the loom were pleasant sounds, and their operation was a favorite avocation. The long web, unfurled upon a grassy spot, was left to bleach in the sun, under care and supervision, and when of snowy whiteness, were made up into shirts, sheets and summer wear. Sabbath and holiday suits were worn with laudable pride, as the skillful handiwork of mother, wife or daughter.

In the larger Eastern towns, British goods were worn, but in the West they were unknown. The love of dress was not here wanting, but the means of gratifying it. Fashion had its votaries, but changes were infrequent and exactions not severe. A calico dress, made up by the wearer, served not only for the reception of company at home, but also for the party at the neighbor's. The wearer looked no less attractive than do those clad in the richer fabrics of to-day, and few excused themselves from social gatherings upon the plea of "nothing to wear."

It was not until 1836, that Levi Spayd, the first tailor in Greenville, and still a resident, opened a shop for the making of mens' apparel. The women, as has been said, made up the cloth and garments worn by them. Carding-mills came later than the period of which we speak, and it was rare to see a person dressed in store clothes.

Girls spun cheerily with lightsome tread and quick movement, under the prospect of receiving 75 cents a week, and, in 1823, you might have gone in Greenville to the stores of John S. Douglass, Nicholas Greenham or of the House Brothers, Isaac and Henry, and pricing calico, found it held at 40 to 50 cents a yard. Society in that early day knew little factional distinction, and the love of liberty and the maintenance of lofty sentiments were cherished by industry, and the dignity of character was held more precious than that derived from conscious and acknowledged worth. The opinion of the public and the sentiments of the aged were estimated at full value. True manhood was exemplified in principle, integrity and independence, fitly expressed in the saying of an eminent old writer:

The inbred loyalty unto virtue which can serve her without a livery." The amusements of young and old were enjoyed with zest. There were huskings and





quiltings, woodchoppings, loggings and raisings, celebrations and musters, and each was a glad occasion. There was a double sense of enjoyment, the consciousness of profitable and necessary employment and familiar intercourse. Visits were made without formality, and were received with genuine satisfaction. Horse-back riding for business or pleasure was common to both sexes, since horses could pass where tree and stump forbade the use of wheeled vehicles.

To-day, society, labor, dress and mode of travel are all changed. There is more formality and less happiness. There are fictitious distinctions of clans, but the records of the past honor the pioneer as the people of the present are doing noble work in the continuation of past labors.

Living in houses that are clapboarded, painted, blinded, and comfortably warmed and supplied with every essential and luxury of the age, we may look upon the old-fashioned implements as indispensable to the time, and present relics. They are seen as curiosities, guide-marks of progress in scientific and mechanical skill, while contemplated by the pioneer whose brawny arm had heaped and burned the log-heap, he muses as if his senses were steeped in shadowy dream. He sees again "the sleepless wilderness, a scene of wild expanse and nameless grandeur comes before his mind,

"The voice of Nature's very self drops low,  
As tho' she whispered of the long ago,  
When down the wandering stream the rude canoe  
Of some lone trapper glided into view,  
And loitered down the watery path that led  
Thro' forest depths that only knew the tread  
Of savage beasts, and wild barbarians  
That skulked about with blood upon their hands  
And murder in their hearts. The light of day  
Might barely pierce the gloominess that lay  
Like some dark pall across the water's face,  
And folded all the land in its embrace;  
The panther's screaming, and the bear's low growl,  
The snake's sharp rattle, and the wolf's wild howl;  
The owl's grim chuckle, as it rose and fell  
In alternation with the Indian's yell,  
Made fitting prelude for the gory plays  
That were enacted in the early days.

"Now, o'er the vision, like a mirage, falls  
The old log cabin with its dingy walls,  
And crippled chimney, with the crutch-like prop  
Beneath a sagging shoulder at the top.  
The coonskin battened fast on either side,  
The wisps of leaf tobacco, cut and dried;  
The yellow strands of quartered apples hung  
In rich festoons that tangle in among  
The morning-glory vines that clamber o'er  
The little clapboard roof above the door:  
Again, thro' mists of memory arise  
The simple scenes of home, before the eyes;  
The happy mother humming with her wheel,  
The dear old melodies that used to steal  
So drowsily upon the summer air,  
The house dog hid his bone, forgot his care,  
And nestled at her feet, to dream, perchance,  
Some cooling dream of winter-time romance.  
The square of sunshine through the open door  
That notched its edge across the puncheon floor,  
And made a golden coverlet whereon  
The god of slumber had a picture drawn  
Of babyhood, in all the loveliness  
Of dimpled cheek and limb and linsey dress.  
The bough-filled fireplace and the mantle wide,  
Its fire-scorched ankles stretched on either side,





Where, perched upon its shoulders 'neath the joist,  
 The old clock hiccoughed, harsh and husky-voiced;  
 Tomatoes, red and yellow, in a row,  
 Preserved not then for diet but for show;  
 The jars of jelly, with their dainty tops;  
 Bunches of pennyroyal and cordial drops,  
 The flask of camphor and the vial of squills,  
 The box of buttons, garden-seeds and pills.  
 And thus the pioneer and helpsome aged wife  
 Reflectively reviews the scenes of early life."

REMINISCENCES—LAND PRICES AND PAYMENTS—FARMING IMPLEMENTS—CONDITION  
 OF COUNTY IN 1824.

"Each of us is only the footing-up of a double column of figures that goes back to the first pair" asserts a great truth, since each generation inherits not alone the features, but much of the moral, mental and physical constitution, of that preceding. The sayings of our predecessors, perhaps reduplicated, are worthy of record since they speak knowingly of those who lived and toiled with them. W. S. Harper has written regarding the habits and manners of early settlers, as follows: "Darke County was first settled by an industrious, hardy race of pioneers, poor men who had been renters in other parts of the State. As soon as they were able to raise \$100 or upward, they came here and invested it in land in order that they might have a home of their own, and not be compelled to work one-third of their time for an exacting landlord. As about all the means of the settlers were laid out in land, and as there was a heavy growth of timber all over the county to be cleared away before there could be anything raised to live upon, and as every man was solely dependent on his own labor and that of his family for the improvement of his farm, with this scanty help, he had many hindrances to combat. Three months of the year, sickness prevailed to such an extent that there were scarcely well persons enough to take care of the sick. To procure breadstuff, milling had to be done many miles from home. A single trip occupied from two to five days. Salt and leather must be had once a year by a journey to Cincinnati, which required from seven to ten days. If, as was sometimes the case, some products were in excess of the family need, and it was desired to sell, there was no market nearer than Piqua or Dayton, and the roads were so intolerably bad that it required a good span of horses in the most favorable season of the year to haul twenty-five bushels of wheat. There were many other hindrances of less magnitude, such as visiting the sick, administering to the needy, assisting to raise buildings, roll logs, keeping the 'vermin' from the growing crop, and hunting to supply the table with meat.

"To make money was out of the question, and no one fretted over it. If there could be enough money procured by selling wheat at 3 shillings 11 pence per bushel, or by disposing of deerskins and hams, or coonskins, or hoop-poles, to procure salt and leather, coffee for Sunday mornings, and to pay taxes, it was all that was expected; and the recipients of these means of defraying expenses were more than thankful and better contented therewith than the frugal farmer of the present day with his abundance. Under these and other disadvantages, the county improved slowly. When a spot of ground was cleared and fenced, the ground being dotted over with green stumps and roots, the farmer entered the field to prepare a crop with his team, bar-shear or bull-plow, and after whooping, hallooing, fretting, scolding and often getting heavy blows upon his ribs, and abrasions of skin, and working on in this way for a week, he had gone over the field, which then presented the appearance of having been rooted over by a drove of swine in search of edible roots.

"Little of the land was fenced, and roads were made in every direction according to individual fancy, and without regard to land lines, the one object being to shun wet land and the larger logs. When any part of the road became almost



impassable, improvement was made by laying poles or rails across the track and throwing upon them dirt to keep them down; to repair one rod of such road was considered a day's work. As poor a makeshift as this was, it was the best that could be done in those days. It is doubtful whether as late as 1820, there was money enough in the country to pay for the building of ten miles of turnpike. Under the impulse of making, having, living at and enjoying a home, the people in their poverty labored diligently, lived frugally, and contentedly cleared up their farms, minded their own business, helped their neighbors, and were accorded the favor and blessing of their God. As the country was improved, houses of worship were erected, and the settlers in plainness and simplicity of speech met in them and at their own homes to worship the Giver of all good. There was more love for neighbors, more sympathy for suffering humanity, more benevolence, more of every grace that adorns the Christian character, than can be found in our country at the present day. Those plain, frugal and industrious pioneers have laid the foundation of one of the finest counties in the State of Ohio. With over eight hundred miles of turnpike, 2,000 miles of open ditches, and 10,000 miles of tile ditches; with broad acres, fertile fields and manifest natural and acquired advantages, the people are greatly blessed."

This statement, made by one familiar with this subject after years of observation and experience, seems fully warranted in the essential facts. Increase of population has bestowed strength, divide burdens and restricted intercourse. The channel of feeling flows, perhaps not as deep, although the depth is not discoverable, and the people in the main have greatly improved upon the past.

The early conditions of society made it necessary that men, while seeking such opportunities as were presented to pursue their trade or profession, should base their means of subsistence upon the ownership and cultivation of land. It was not unusual to find the blacksmith-shop near the house, to which he came when wanted from his field, the preacher toiled during the week, and exhorted upon the Sabbath, the teacher shared in this condition, and was by no means exempt from the law of necessity governing the settlements, as is demonstrated by the following reminiscence of Dennis Hart. This person came in November, 1817, to Darke County, and entered a tract of Government land at what was known as "Yankee Town" in the township of Harrison. He found the land heavily timbered and sparsely inhabited, and therefore abandoned this tract in the fall of 1819, and located on Bridge Creek, on the lands of George W. N. Night. As winter approached, the settlers desiring a school, he opened a rate school in an old log cabin, the property of Joseph Townsend, and taught a satisfactory term. The next year, the citizens in that neighborhood built a log schoolhouse on the Greenville and Eaton road, just east of where now stands the house of A. H. Van Dyck, and he was called to serve as the teacher during the winters of 1820-21. His wife died in the former year, and two years later he married Jane McClure, then a resident on Whitewater, near the McClure and Provines settlement. Miss McClure had come to Darke from Kentucky with her father in 1812, when ten years of age, and had grown familiar with a life in the forest, and with its vicissitudes, as several of her father's best horses had been stolen by Indians shortly after his settlement in Darke County. Teachers of the present complain of low wages, but Mr. Hart, as teacher in that day—sixty years ago—agreed to take his wages in corn, meat, potatoes, in short, anything he could use and the settlers could spare. Money payment was out of the question, and his necessity was great. He says: "I was poor and scarce of money, and my clothing was not of the kind suitable for a cold winter, for I had to go many times to Adam's mill, which was some five miles distant, for a grist of corn-meal, after dismissing my school at night.

"One day I went to Greenville to try to get some warmer clothes, especially a pair of pantaloons, but had no money. I called at the store of Abram Scribner, and told him what was wanted and that I wished to pay him in trade from the articles received for services as teacher. He replied that he was not in need of





corn, potatoes or produce of any kind, and such an exchange would not suit him, but that he would let me have the clothing and receive the pay in whisky. I then went to William and Robert Rood, who were operating a little distillery and horse-mill on the bottom land between Greenville and Mina, on the north side of Greenville Creek, sold them my corn at somewhat less than the market price, and received in exchange whisky at a higher rate than the Greenville merchant would allow, but succeeded in settling the account"—the last one for which Mr. Hart ever ran in debt.

Times have changed since then, in truth. Teachers no longer need to patronize distilleries to clothe themselves, and salaries are promptly paid in money. Judson Jaqua's experience and information form an interesting relation in connection with the foregoing, since, in addition to information of points of settlement, there is a statement of the disposition of the section set apart for schools and of a stimulus given to educational interests. He moved into Darke County in the spring of 1819, and "settled in the woods where there was not a tree amiss, except such as had been felled by hunters of bees and raccoons. A small opening had been made by Hart prior to his removal toward Greenville, and a settlement was soon formed by the arrival and settlement here of a number of families. Among the earliest on the ground were two or three New Englanders, and from that circumstance the settlement derived its name of Yankee Town. No schools were known at this time to be in session. Our Section 16, had been rented some years on a lease for ninety-nine years, forever renewable, with interest at 6 per cent on its appraised value, but there had been no payment of rent, as there were no schools. At an election held in 1821, Mr. Jaqua was chosen Justice of the Peace, and thereby came into possession of a law-book, which being examined, there was found an act defining the method whereby school districts could be laid off, and acting on this information, the people defined the boundaries of a district which they entitled No. 1. They now began to inquire about the rent due on Section 16. This drew the attention of other settlements, and more districts were duly formed. New Madison was then Fort Black, and the block-house was still standing, its day of service past. Zadoc Smith had staked off some lots, and then sold out to E. Putnam, who had secured the services of Henry D. Williams, by whom the place was duly laid out. At this time there was, also, a semi-military station called Fort Nesbit on Section 29, but no town, and a good settlement on Whitewater Creek, extending from the south county line as far up as McClure's, lately C. C. Walker's place.

While alluding to the general privations of the early settler, we may dwell upon one embarrassment which bore heavily upon his energies, and which to this generation is measurably unknown. Poor as he usually was, the settler, alone or with his family, had entered upon his westward journey with sufficient means to enter a tract of Government land. He knew that from the soil must come supplies of food; but a noble growth of timber—sure token of fertility—encumbered the ground, and must first be removed before grain or vegetable could grow. Hard labor as it was, many found actual enjoyment therein, and, had no obstacles existed beyond the actual clearing, the woodsmen could have done their work without great difficulty. It is a pleasure, at this late day, to listen to the narrations of those who, when children, came upon their farms in this now favored section, and thereon have grown old in all but the evergreen memories of those first impressions. Differing in names, dates and locality of the settlement, the history of one of Darke County's pioneers is like to that of all. As units of the number in the force engaged in rendering subservient to the man the wild luxuriance of nature, the greatest troubles were met by those who led the van. When land had been chosen and improved somewhat, when lapse of time brought the day of payment and there was no money, nor the means to procure any, and when, suffering sickness and enduring hunger, default of payment or foreclosure of a claim drove the family from such home as had been made, then, in truth, was hardship known; yet such was the reward of many who cleared land in Darke. As the law then





stood, not less than a quarter-section could be entered. The price of the public land was \$2 an acre, and the purchaser was required to pay \$80, or one-fourth, down, one-fourth in two years, and the balance in two equal annual installments, with interest; altogether, \$320. If not paid within the time specified, the lands, with whatever had been paid of the installments, were forfeited, and a great many were unable to pay for their lands as required, and so, being placed at the mercy of the Government, they remained as occupants by sufferance. Forfeiture was not declared, and, in March, 1820, an act was passed by Congress, extending the time for payments to entries until March 31, 1821. This legislation simply allowed the settler to reside on his land another year, but this gave no aid. He was as unable to pay at the end of the year as at the beginning. At length, a bill was introduced which provided that the holder of any legal certificate of purchase might file a relinquishment in writing, at the land office, on or before September 30, 1821; and if such person had paid but one-fourth of the first cost of the entry, he could pay the rest in eight equal annual installments; if he had paid one-half, the balance could be paid in six annual payments; if three-fourths, the rest could have four equal yearly installments; and if the whole amount could be paid by the last of September, 1822, a deduction of three-eighths would be made on payments yet to be made. March 21, 1821, the bill passed, but Darke County was remote, and news of this relief measure came when it was too late to make it available. The time, too, had nearly gone by before the district land officers had received orders from the proper department, and few had any benefit from the enactment. An act was passed March 3, 1823, continuing the provisions of the law of 1821 to September 30, 1823. Congress, however, contained many men who felt a deep interest in the development of the West, and who were earnest in their efforts to aid the moneyless settler. Soon an act was passed, authorizing the sale of public lands in one-eighth sections, and reducing the price to \$1.25 per acre. Still another law was passed, legalizing land sales in one-sixteenth of a section, or forty-acre tracts, and permitting such as had entered lands under the first act to relinquish them, and to apply whatever they had paid to the payment of one-half the lands entered, or any other tract they might choose. The beneficial influence of this legislation was apparent, in securing as permanent settlers a number of families that otherwise would have been deprived of their homes, after losing both payments and labor. The land was low, wet, wooded and hard to clear up. About each cabin were a few acres in crop, and these pioneers raised no surplus. They were satisfied to bide their time if they had sufficient food to take them through to the next harvest. When supplies were necessitated, hauling had to be done great distances, upon roads almost impassable for wagons, and the greater part of such provisions was mainly corn meal and bacon, which were placed, generally, upon horses, and so brought home. Journeys through the woods on foot were as little regarded, at such times, as trips equal distances now are by the railway.

Clearing was *the* labor of the day, and its method is little known by the favored descendants of the present. In 1820, intelligence directing physical strength was excellent, but courage and bodily power were imperative, and the weakly were out of place, while idlers were held in contempt. Opprobrious epithets were freely applied to him who shunned labor, and his punishment came home with force when neighbors refused to attend his calls.

The settler, ax in hand, prepared to commence a spot of clearing, felled his trees with scientific skill in double windrows inward, piling and interlacing limbs and tops; then, when the summer's heat had evaporated the moisture and all was dry as tinder, a chosen time found favorable winds which drove the fires enkindled with waves of flame and furnace heat from end to end, and left the charred and blackened trunks for future disposal. The practice of girdling was frequently a resort, and a tract whereon the trees stood leafless and decaying was aptly termed a deadening. These trees were cut in time, and used for fencing and for firewood, the latter use from readiness to burn, not disposition to economize the



timber. The choicest timber found no exemption, the walnut, cherry and poplar, with the beech, the ash and the maple, were alike "in one red burial blent."

It was customary to cut logs in lengths, and then give notice of a logging bee, when all turned out to roll the logs in heaps ready for burning. Changing works was the rule, which had no exception. Many a settler, having risen early, traveled miles through the woods to take part in a logging, and has, on his return home, passed much of the night in kindling and keeping up his log-heap fires. There being a small spot cleared for home site and truck patch, it was customary to chop during winter for a spring crop of corn. The brush was burned where it lay, and if there was rank vegetation and the fire swept the field, it was in all the better condition for the crop. The matted roots of vegetable growth and the layers of decaying leaves contributed to fertilize the ground. In the early spring days, the busy settlers fired their log heaps or their windrows, and the woods were darkened and travelers confused and blinded by the dense clouds of smoke. The darkness of night was intensified by the fires. Lurid flames, casting strange shadows upon the surrounding forest, lent a weird, uncanny aspect to this midnight holocaust of noble timber—the wreck and ruin of unchecked centuries of growth. There were pillars, too, of fire in these clearings where the flames had crept as if in stealth insidiously upward along the hollow of some tall dead tree, till, issuing fiercely exultant at the top, they waved their victory from this wood-walled furnace. And on these clearings were seen the many fires burning, as if the night had come again after the massacre of November 4, and the savages were repeating in pantomime their infernal tortures on their hapless captives. Here is seen a heap just lighted, where burns a lively flame, there red embers, glowing in heat, mark the sites of piles of logs consumed. Those who were without team and plow, or all, if the season was far advanced, planted their corn, pumpkins, turnips and potatoes irregularly among the stumps, amid the mold-mingled ashes. The pest of weeds, which came later to strive for dominance was unknown, and settlers had need only to guard their crops from depredation, and to go through the fields to pull or cut the fire-wood, which grew rank and luxuriant from questioned germ, upon these newly cleared fields. It was soon exterminated, to be succeeded by others less thrifty and more obnoxious. In cropping, each settler followed his own desire: some sowed wheat and rye upon the ground after cutting the corn, in wide rows of stooks, while others sowed a piece of ground prepared for the purpose during the summer, and, one way with another, managed to harrow it under.

The farmer of sixty years ago was poorly supplied with poor tools. There was no kind of machinery used in agriculture, as *then there was none to use*. Hoes, drags and brush were used to cover seed. A broken tool was not easily repaired, for the blacksmith's shop was generally some distance away, and, in consequence, tools were made strong and unwieldy. The drag was made by the settler or his more handy neighbor. Two round or hewed sticks were joined: the one was longer than the other, and, projecting, was made the place for attachment for the chain, and both were braced apart by a cross-piece. Seven heavy iron teeth were set in, four upon the longer piece, three on the other. Not unfrequently, necessity supplied the harrows with wooden teeth. Fields were cultivated several seasons mainly with the hoe, to allow time for the decay of roots. For breaking up land, two kinds of plows were used—the bar shear, which had a long, flat shear, a coulter or cutter placed on the point of the shear, and extending up through the beam, and a wooden mold-board. The beam and handle extended about ten feet. The other was known as the "Bull plow," and was brought into the country by immigrants from New York and New Jersey. One of the first employed in breaking in Darke County had but one handle and a wooden mold-board. The first improvement made upon this plow was the addition of another handle. It was the best plow then in use, clumsy and heavy to handle as it was. The earliest introduced patented plow was known as the "Peacock." The great





improvement on the old bar shear consisted in the change of the material of the moldboard from wood to cast iron. These served to stir up the surface of the soil, but the plowman of to-day, throwing the soil clean from the furrow, has little thought of the effort made to drag one of those plows through the land, the adherence of soil to the plow, the failure to "scour," and the poor work possible with such a tool.

#### CLIMATE.

A powerful element of no slight importance, relating to the past and present of Darke County, and one beyond the considerations of fertility and productive or actual capacity, was that of climate. It was generally believed, and a good show of reason, the land being cleared, this county would excel in the purity of its climate. Since the early settlement of Darke County, occurring changes have greatly modified the climate, and to a less extent this is still in progress. The original forest, together with the undergrowth, shut out the sun from the soil and impeded atmospheric circulation. The almost monotonous level of the surface receiving the winter snows and spring rains retained the water through the summer on account of driftwood, vegetation and other obstructions. Evaporation proceeded slowly during summer, and thereby caused a moist, cool air. The forests broke the sweep of the cold northwest winds of winter, and the freezing of large, partially submerged tracts, gave off a sufficient amount of heat to possibly mitigate the cold incident to the season. The soil, bedded in leaves and vegetation, was greatly protected from the frost, and the warm air of spring speedily awakened the dormant germs of vegetation. It also happened that the surface protected by overhanging foliage from the heat of summer, more readily experienced the influences of wind and frosts, and hastened winter. The forests being gradually cut down to make room for cultivation, the land being thoroughly drained, these conditions have correspondingly changed. The earth now receives the sun-rays unobstructed; the air has free circulation. The tilled lands have been underdrained with tile and open ditches, thereby carrying away at once the melting snows of winter and the rains of spring, leaving little moisture to affect the climate by evaporation. The effect of this denuding and draining of the soil is seen in the great depth to which the summer's sun-rays penetrate, and as these rays are given off, the arrival of winter is proportionally delayed. But when the reserve of heat is exhausted, the unprotected earth is deeply frozen, and from these conditions come later springs, warmer summers and delayed but more severe winters. An analysis of the climate of Darke, according to the previous description, requires a consideration, also, of the situation of its land and the direction and character of its winds. Located about midway between the Alleghany Mountains and the Mississippi River, there is observable a prevalence of westerly winds. This is explained by the enormous area of level lowlands whereon the atmosphere is influenced by the earth's rotary motion, causing it to move in westerly currents toward or from the equator. The west and northwest winds are mainly dry-air currents, so that although the annual rainfall is considerable, yet under their action the moisture is rapidly absorbed. Such conditions would inure to the productiveness of most soils, but in a good, rich soil such as Darke County occupies, there is almost a certainty of ample and abundant crops.

The averages in the various seasons are, approximately,  $31^{\circ}$  for winter,  $57^{\circ}$  for spring,  $74^{\circ}$  for summer and  $52^{\circ}$  for autumn. The winter is long, and there are sudden changes from the mildness of spring to the most intense cold. These cold spells are rarely more than seven or eight days' duration, and are generally preceded by storms of rain or snow. Rain falls almost nightly and for a day or so at a time during spring, and the temperature fluctuates from the chill of winter to the warmth of summer. Following one of these changes, summer comes and is throughout of a tropical character. As fall draws near, the atmospheric conditions approach uniformity, and at this period Darke County is seen to the greatest







*John Rush*

HARRISON TP.



*John H. [illegible]*

1880

advantage. Breathing an agreeable atmosphere, surrounded by healthful conditions, the beholder looks with pleasure upon the fields, the orchards and the gardens. Turning to the woodlands, he sees the maples, elms and oaks in holiday attire, preparing for their period of rest. There is there every hue and all shades of color. The winds toy with the branches; the sunlight is all about them: some are darkened as in shadow, others are brilliant in the glow of light, and all about there are seen bluish, smokelike mists, completing nature's finest portraiture of the forest in the falltime arrayed in splendor.

The health of the settler and of the later residents has been subjected to the mutations affecting the climate. In the low swamps, miasma prevailed; the action of the sun upon the decaying vegetation opened by the clearing and stirred by the plow, induced fevers and chills, and there were few that did not, at times, succumb to these disorders. The healthy and hearty entered into the struggle with nature courageously and joyously. Labor had its zest, and food and sleep were most refreshing; but there were many who struggled on under the depression and hindrances of sickness. As settlers came in and clearing took greater sweep, sickness became more general, or, at least, more apparent, and when Drs. Perrine and Briggs came to Greenville, they found constant employment in attending to the calls of the sick. Fever and ague prevailed, and few, if any, families but had some sick members. Not then, as now, was quinine available—not even known—and the popular remedies were dogwood and wild-cherry bark steeped in native whisky. Slow progress was made for a time, as men became disheartened, left the county and circulated reports that were not only true but sadly true, of an irclaimable wilderness of morass and swamp, the haunt of pestiferous agues and consuming fevers. It is a fact that very few of the pioneers of Darke held on through all vicissitudes.

From 1820 to 1840, the doctors were all kept busy attending to the sick, so prevalent were ague, flux and bilious fever at certain seasons of the year. The years 1836 and 1837 were comparatively healthy; the year following was more sickly, and 1839 still more so, and from that time till 1850 there were more or less of bilious complaints every season. Since that date, both towns and county have been generally healthy. As an illustration of the desperation to which the medical treatment subjected patients, we relate an incident in the practice of Dr. Gard, one of the veteran physicians of the early day. He was called in, as family physician, to minister to the wants of a sick child. Cold water was forbidden, and calomel, as was usual, was administered. The doctor then retired, with promise of a return the next day. Cold water was barred; the boy begged for a drink, but entreated in vain, as the doctor's orders were immutable law. He then resorted to strategy. Feigning a desire for rest and repose, the family retired to permit their indulgence. Soon heavy breathing announced that all were asleep, and the patient arose from bed, staggered to the water-bucket, and, to his dismay, found it *empty*. This discovery would have been hailed by imprecations that would have roused all in the house had not the necessity of the case demanded control. Water must be had, although the spring was at quite a distance. The coffee-pot was found, and the patient set out to assuage his consuming thirst. He rested several times in the wet grass, but finally arrived at the spring, drank heartily, and, undiscovered, returned to his bed, having placed the well-filled coffee-pot at the bedside. This was two-thirds emptied before this suicidal act was known, when the doctor was hurriedly summoned and soon stood with astonished and ominous look, awaiting serious results that did not happen. In a few days, the patient had recovered. Dr. Gard was as skillful as the best, and did his duty, but the practice of that day had its rigors. Vital statistics of Darke County for 1870 show that, out of a population of 32,278, the deaths were, of males, 158; of females, 192, or a total of 350. There were, among the enumerated causes of deaths, the diseases of infants, typhoid, dysentery, spotted fever (or spinal meningitis), consumption, pneumonia and old age. The last named produced the greatest mortality. There died of





spotted fever, 24 ; of consumption, 58 ; of pneumonia, 32, and of old age, 17. This gives a small fraction over 1 death yearly from each 100 of population—a rate that will compare favorably with other localities and which demonstrates the present healthfulness of the climate.

Rich as the land was, it could not produce money, and this must be had to meet payments and taxes. Clearing, aside from small patches, had no stimulus. Of what avail were bins of corn and wheat, and droves of swine, without a purchaser or market, and of markets there were none. Having sufficient bread and meat, all were satisfied, and they shared freely with each other and with strangers. Wheat was worth about 2 shillings per bushel, and corn changed hands at about one-half that price. The current prices fluctuated with the supply, and it was a gratification when a newspaper for the first time made its appearance and obtained general circulation in the county. It was published at Eaton, Preble County, and subscription was paid in corn at 15 cents per bushel. Pork was sold, when it could be sold, at 2 and 3 cents a pound ; beef brought about the same price ; maple sugar was held at 6 and 8 cents per pound, and maple syrup at about 2 shillings a gallon. Wages ranged from 2 to 3 shillings a day, and this was regarded as an average of compensation. Had some wealthy man bought large tracts and taken steps to develop the capacity of the land, there were many who would gladly have offered their services, but improvement in wages, prices and health were yet far in the future ; and this border life between the civilized and the savage had few attractions such as society affords.

#### DARKE IN 1824.

Fifty-six years ago, and nine counties in Western Ohio, stretching from the State's south boundary to Lake Erie, had one representative in the State Legislature and cast a vote of less than 700. Andrew Hiller took the census of Darke County in 1830, at which date the population entire was 6,204, and of Greenville 204, which was an increase of 2,487 in ten years. The condition of the country in 1824 has been described as follows : " At that time, the present townships of Mississinewa, Jackson, Allen, York, Patterson and Wabash, did not contain a single inhabitant. In Brown, there were three families ; in Franklin, one ; in Monroe, three ; more than three-fourths of the townships of Wayne, Richland, Adams, Van Buren, Butler and Twin, were an unbroken wilderness, and in the most populous parts of the county, more than half the land yet belonged to the United States. The present fine valleys of East Fork, Mud Creek, West Branch and Bridge Creek, were dismal swamps, tangled morasses through which the intrepid surveyors under Ludlow forced their way ; at times waist-deep in water and resisted by briars, branches and tall grasses. Half the farms were fenceless : cattle and swine ran half wild, and the latter were trapped and hunted with ferocious dogs. In that year, there were four grist-mills in the county, all of which, together might have ground one hundred bushels of corn per day, if the conditions were favorable, that is, if there was water in the streams, the dam unbroken and the mill machinery in order. Much of the time, the settlers resorted to the mills of Jerry Cass, on Middle Fork ; Sheets and Razor, on the Stillwater ; Lehman's, at Rowdy, and to those more certain, yet more distant upon the Miami River.

There were also eight or ten saw-mills that, for three months in the year, could cut from 500 to 1,000 feet of lumber in a day and night's run, provided something was not broken or out of order ; for it was the exception and not the rule to find them in running condition. In one branch of business, the county has retrograded. There were then a dozen or less of petty distilleries, whose united product fell far short of quenching the thirst of the people, and additional supplies were drawn from the establishments of McGrew, on Whitewater, and Sheets, Razor's and Robnock, on Stillwater. Those of Lehman





& Rench were passed by, as the local demand left no surplus. To this was added the imported cognac, Jamaica, Scheidam, from Cincinnati, besides Madeira, sherry and port, so essential to preserve health, and so essential in sickness. T. Snell and J. Huffman coopered kegs for the products of the stills, and manufactured well buckets, kraut tubs and other vessels needed by the settlers. There were in the county six brick houses and thrice that number of frame buildings, the cost of construction of none having been in excess of \$500. Every other human habitation was the log house, in its various phases, from the round-pole structure with bark covering, to the two-story hewed-log, with shingle roof and glazed windows. There were a number of schoolhouses, the best of which was not worth \$15, and all of them together would have been dear at \$100.

Two meeting-houses, one a Methodist and one a Hard-shell Baptist, built of hewed logs, and roofed with clapboard, composed the ecclesiastical structures of the county at that period. Religious services were held at long and irregular intervals, at various places, the court house, private dwellings, or, if the weather permitted, out of doors.

The roads of the county consisted of the old war traces of St. Clair and Wayne, cut more than thirty years before, the Indian path to the Miami on the east, and the Whitewater towns on the west and southwest, and some few other "traces," as they were called, cut out by the early settlers; so that a wagon might possibly get along in the daytime, provided the driver had an ax along with him, to cut his way around trees, which had fallen across the road. A trip with a conveyance on wheels, to and from Piqua or Troy, to Lockey's Mills or Paris, under very favorable circumstances, might be made in from three to five days; to Eaton, the Mississinewa or Recovery, in a much longer period. Nothing on wheels was ever attempted to be taken to St. Mary's or Loramie, and if anything of the kind ever went to Winchester, it never returned.

There were not then over one hundred acres of cleared land in a body, in the county; the proportion of cultivated to wild land cannot definitely be stated, but sixteen years later, 1840, the area of land utilized by civilization, by inclosure, and much of that still covered with timber and denominated "woods pasture," amounted to but little over 25 per cent.

It remains to revert to the general features of the county. At that time the lands subjected to cultivation were the more elevated portions of Greenville, Washington, Harrison and Neaves Townships, with narrow belts along Stillwater, Swamp Creek and Greenville Creek in the townships of Richland, Wayne and Adams; on Miller's Fork in Twin, and at the head of Twin Creek in Butler. The Painter Creek and the swamps of Twin, reaching from Greenville Creek to the southern boundary of the county, and from the east side of Butler and Neaves Townships to the Miami County line, and including an area of more than a hundred square miles, now exhibiting a body of as good farming lands as any in the Miami Valley, and which are now as well-improved and productive as any in the county, were, fifty years ago, and for many years thereafter, a wilderness, heavily wooded and much the greater part under water, varying from one to five feet in depth, more than half the year. In a like condition, until quite a recent period, was more than half of the townships of Jackson, Brown, Allen, Wabash and Patterson. These regions have been entirely reclaimed to agricultural uses, and are now producing, some thirty, some sixty and some an hundred fold."

#### EARLY PREACHERS—EDUCATION—MARRIAGE CUSTOMS AND MARRIAGES, ETC.

When settlers' cabins stood at secluded places, at wide intervals upon high ground, on creek banks, or deep in the woods, the circuit rider had set out on his mission of good. Traversing road, trace and forest paths, he found cordial welcome everywhere. Arousing strong opposition, he had power in Gospel truth, plainly expressed, and found ample illustration from the boundless volume of





Nature. Let it be said to the honor of the pioneer, that despite the crude state of society, whoever made any profession of religion was faithful in worship and fervent in spirit. Church members from the East gladly called in kindred spirits to hold prayer-meetings in their cabins, relate their experience and cheer each on. They gave kind greeting to the chance or expected itinerant preacher on his arrival, took charge of his horse and speedily sent out the children or went themselves along the byways to notify the neighborhood, when all dropped their employment and gathered to the meeting.

It was well that Christians were strong in faith, brave and determined, for there was much wickedness practiced. The character of employment, and association at races, courts, musters, raisings and other assemblages, tended strongly to make the popular vices of gambling, drinking and fighting. There was urgent need of the enthusiastic and eloquent men, who from the cabin door, the rude stand in the large barn, or the extemporized pulpit at the camp-meeting in the wood, addressed the gathered throng in ringing tones with thrilling language upon those noblest of themes—salvation and immortality. The records of those meetings of the olden time almost persuade the reader that some speakers of that day were, at times, inspired with superhuman power of speech.

There are few now living who recollect John Purviance, who lived on the Whitewater, and championed the tenets of the Christian Church; Andrew and Henry Rush, who exhorted in the Methodist faith, and Dearborn and Finley, representative circuit riders. Some few may recall old John Hiller and his grown-up sons—settlers on the West Branch—and the pioneer meeting-house erected in his neighborhood. They have passed away, and few are the traces left of them.

It is asserted that Judge J. Purviance preached at the house of Judge Rush, on Mud Creek, in 1811, the first sermon delivered to a civil congregation within the bounds of Darke County. His father, David Purviance, was one of the originators of what were termed the "New-lights," in Kentucky. Rev. J. Purviance was a teacher, as well as a preacher and worker, and his dwelling near Braffettsville, in Harrison Township, was made to answer the threefold purpose of schoolroom, meeting-house and dwelling.

About the same year, Abraham Sneethen preached a sermon in Greenville, and Henry Arnold speaks of it as the first he had heard in this county. Among other pioneer preachers of the Christian denomination were Isaac Main, John Foster and William Polly. The Baptists formed a society at an early date and erected a house of worship—evidence of members and influence. The Presbyterians delayed organization until 1818, when Rev. Shannon who had served as chaplain in one of Harrison's Kentucky regiments, preached at the residence of Mr. Martin, father of John H. Martin. Early history of Methodism in Darke County has mainly to do with the circuit riders, elders and churches. The record of Methodism during the early years of settlement is meager. The first Methodist minister that visited this county was Rev. John Brown in 1817, and the year following John P. Durbin (since Corresponding Secretary of the American Missionary Society) preached on what was then known as the Eaton Circuit. It was extensive in area, embracing appointments at Camden and Eaton in Preble County; Greenville and Hiller's in Darke County, Covington, in Miami County, and Union, Concord and Germantown in Montgomery County, besides parts of Wayne and Randolph in Indiana. The pioneer meeting-house of the county was erected by the Methodist society in 1818, and is yet standing upon its original site, about four miles west of Greenville and a half-mile south of Winchester turnpike. Great pains were taken with this rude sanctuary in its construction. Its walls were of hewed logs, and the work when completed was considered excellent. The pulpit, made of rough boards, and two or three slab seats, are still in existence. The roof was originally of the old well-known cabin style, but has since been renewed and bears a more modern covering. The old house itself has been kept in such repair that it served for the accommodation of the people on funeral occasions. The





dedicatory sermon for this old landmark of religion was preached by Rev. Durbin, and the following Presiding Elders severally held within its door their quarterly meetings : Alexander Cummins, John Strange, John Collins, J. B. Finley, John F. Wright, William H. Raper and William B. Christie. The first quarterly meeting for the Greenville Circuit of 1817 was held at Greenville in the private dwelling of John Dunn by Elder Moses Crume. Rev. Durbin preached at the house of A. Scribner and his teaching seems to have been salutary in its effect upon the community. Soon the limits of the circuit were diminished and regular preaching was discontinued until 1833, although during this interval, sermons were occasionally delivered at the court house, dwelling-houses, and such other places as could be procured for that purpose. The want of houses of worship gave rise to the custom of holding camp-meetings and other religious assemblages in the open air. This was resorted to by the different denominations, and drew large crowds, but sometimes the good results were counterbalanced by the rowdying ruffianism that intruded itself. The yearly Dunker meetings were rarely disturbed. The peculiar methods of the sect, their generosity in feeding the multitude, chiefly upon soups, had much to do, no doubt, in securing the order that so generally prevailed at their meetings.

In 1818, the first class was organized in Darke County, at the pioneer church, and was known as the "Hiller and Livergood class." In 1833, William Oliver, resident about six miles north of Greenville, formed a second class, which consisted of the following named persons : Mrs. Turpen and daughter Emeline (the wife of Dr. Sexton), Mrs. L. R. Brownell, William Barrett and wife, and William J. Birely and wife. It is said of Mrs. Turpen that she, at times, walked four miles to church and class. This class was organized under Revs. Francis Timmons and Ira Chase, who were on the circuit at this date. A class was formed at Greenville this same year. The Methodists experienced much opposition, being regarded as hypocritical and fanatical. Meetings were disturbed and attempts were made to inflict violence upon the ministers.

In 1834, prayer-meeting began to be held at the house of William Wiley, whose wife had been a member of the Baptist Church at her former home. Mr. Wiley's meetings were at first attended by persons spirituously as well as spiritually inclined. After a time, religious people came quite generally, and this led in time to the present Wednesday evening prayer-meeting in Greenville.

This year, Jesse Prior was on the circuit, and among those in the county added to the church were William J. Birely and wife, J. M. Baskerville, Lovina Houp, Hiram Bell, Jane and Lemuel Rush and Eliza McGinnis. In 1835, a church building was commenced in Greenville. Stephen F. Conry and Adam Miller were on the circuit. In the year 1837, Rev. Prior was returned and the church influence became manifest. Religion was the topic of converse at home, in public and on the street, while attendance at church was general. Eli Truitt labored on the circuit in 1838-39. Robert O. Spencer was Presiding Elder, and Wilson Barrett and George Starr were Class-Leaders. During the years 1840-41, William Morrow and James McNabb being on the circuit, it was now reduced by increase of population to Darke County. About 300 persons were converted and a like number joined the church. From 1841, to the close of 1843, S. M. Batty and Eliakim Zimmerman, were on the circuit. They were followed in 1844, by Jacob Brown and Cadwallader Owens; then came T. Phillips in 1845-46; Joseph Wykes in 1847-48; and Alexander Hammond in 1849-50. David Rutledge labored on the circuit in 1851, and the church received some accessions. Jacob Burkholder, assisted by Franklin Mariott, were well received in 1852, and the church prospered. L. C. Webster, assisted by Rev. Mariott, in 1853. W. W. Winter was the senior preacher in the two following years, assisted first by P. G. Goode, then by Oliver Kennedy, who from 1856-58, was senior preacher, aided by L. C. Webster and P. B. Lewis. Great interest was shown, accessions were numerous, and the people saw these men remove elsewhere with regret. Ministers





in 1858 were W. J. Peek and John T. Bower, and for 1859 and 1860, Isaac Newton, assisted by P. B. Lewis, at which date Greenville was made a station with an appointment at Coleville. From this date, the history of Methodism will be found continued in city and township record. It was but justice to enroll the names of those circuit riders. What a life was theirs: uncertain one year of their field of labor the next. A pair of saddle-bags contained their wardrobe and their library. Long journeys were made to meet appointments. All honor to these men, though they have gone from us, their memories are preserved in the ennobling influences created and fostered by their faithful instructions.

The Darke County charge of the German Reformed Church presents its first record in reference to a meeting held at Beamsville Aug. 6, 1853, at which five congregations were represented, viz.: Zion, five miles west of Greenville; St. John's, in German Township; beside Zoar, Beamsville and Gettysburg. At this meeting, Jesse Prugh was President; John L. Darner, Secretary; and Philip Hartzell and Jesse Prugh, delegates to synod and classis. A new charge was designed at Greenville, and the different congregations pledged \$131 for the support of a minister, and Indian Creek congregation was put down for \$25, the sum they were supposed willing to contribute. At the next annual meeting, Zoar and Zion only were represented. Another year elapsed, and the joint consistories of the county met at St. John's Church, when the resignation of Rev. J. D. Collier was tendered and accepted, and a committee appointed to procure another minister. Meeting again on July 24, these same congregations extended a call to Rev. J. McConnell, and pledged \$185 to his support. The call was not accepted. Mr. Prugh was re-elected President, and Mr. Hartzell was chosen Secretary. Aug. 23, 1856, these congregations were represented at a meeting held at Clayton, Miami Co., Ohio. The same person was continued as Secretary, and John Nicodemus elected Treasurer. Delegates were chosen to attend the meetings of the Synod. The consistory of Zion's congregation desiring to withdraw from the charge, the request was assented to on condition of a donation of \$50 to supply the deficiency caused by their retiring. Meantime, Rev. I. M. Lefevre had accepted a call to preach, and a meeting was called for August 23, 1857, at the house of Levi Rahm, in the limits of the Gettysburg congregation, at which Zoar and Beamsville met the local consistory and chose for officers J. L. Darner, Vice President; Secretary, the same as before; G. W. Cromer, Treasurer; Jesse Prugh and William Aspinwall, elected delegates to Synod and classis. The Missionary Board was asked for \$50 for one year, to support minister, in addition to \$175 pledged by the members. Again they met a year later, continued the same officers, and, as an illustration of the poverty but willing spirit prevailing, a deficit of the Pastor's salary was reported and a pledge made of \$160 for the coming year. It was then *Resolved*, That the Pastor preach a missionary sermon in each congregation of this charge, and at the same time take up a collection for domestic missions. In 1859, Beamsville, Zoar and Gettysburg met at Clayton, Ohio, elected officers and appointed a committee to extend an invitation to Rev. J. Weaver to visit the charge with a view of securing him as Pastor. The Darke County charge, of which these records are given, has ceased to be known as such. By an action of classes in the fall of 1861, the Zoar congregation became attached to the St. Paris' charge, and the Beamsville and Creager's (Gettysburg) to the Dallas charge in 1862, thereby dissolving the charge. This action was preparatory to starting an interest in the town of Greenville, so long neglected, and the formation of what was thereafter to be known as the Greenville charge. The hardships and discouraging vicissitudes incident to a new country, have been experienced by the different denominations; although the record has not been in all accessible, yet no distinction need be made, since originators, members and ministers have been heroic and undaunted in building up the present elevating and advancing interest in things spiritual and eternal, and furthering the cause of the Master.



The first Sabbath school in the county was organized early in 1834, in what was afterward sometimes called "Scribner's white house," wherein Harrison made a treaty with the Indians. The school began with an enrollment of but eleven persons, including officers, teachers and pupils, and that it was non-sectarian is proved by the association in this work of Methodists, Presbyterians and Congregationalists. In the spring, sixteen accessions were chronicled, and within three years the number had increased to fully one hundred and fifty more. The school was then discontinued, and each denomination that had sufficient pupils organized a school of its own. The first Superintendent was William Barrett, a Methodist. The first Secretary was Herman Searles, a Congregationalist, and the pioneer teachers of classes were Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Sexton, Mrs. Briggs, Mrs. Barrett and Miss Evaline Dorsey.

Educational advantages in town and county were for many years quite limited. There were a few rude schoolhouses widely scattered, and these were occupied three months of each winter by teachers whose qualifications better-adapted them for burning brick than solving problems in mathematics, and, consequently, there was little learned. Schools were taught by subscriptions. Settlers built houses as they were needed. Taxes came as a result of the practical defeat of a law which appropriated public lands for school funds. Many of these sections were at the time worthless, and, such as were of value being sold, the proceeds were squandered. The work was in private hands, there was no test of ability or qualification, and not till 1821 was the first general school law found in the statutes. There were no school districts, nor public funds, special or tuition. Every one paid for the instruction of his own children.

Many settlers had large families—as many as ten children were found in a single cabin—and, to provide for the future of these young people, the parents came to this county. There was always work to be done, and the services of all hands were needed; it was only during the winter months that schools could be attended. At these, only the elementary branches were taught, and the predominant idea of the schoolmaster was discipline first, learning afterward. No grammar nor geography were taught. Few studied arithmetic, and these did not proceed much beyond the rudiments; and when, at length, grammar was introduced, such pupils were thought well advanced. In any locality, whenever sufficient families had moved in to form a school, the settlers stood ready to build a house and engage a teacher. Tall, strapping youths attended school, and the master had need of decision and courage as well as method and erudition. It was customary for the person applying for the school to call upon the parties within sending distance and canvass for scholars. If enough were secured, school opened. An illustration of the old-time method is given as follows: About the year 1815, a man came into the Rush neighborhood and offered his services as teacher. The settlers located along Mud Creek, West Branch and Bridge Creek talked the matter over, and concluded to employ him. It was a light labor for all to turn out with axes, handspikes and oxen, upon a day appointed, to chop and draw logs to a chosen site, for the purpose of putting up a schoolhouse. The location was near Rush Fort, on Mud Creek. While some put up round logs, notched down one layer upon another, until they were of sufficient elevation to form a story, split clapboards for the roof, chamber floor and door, and puncheons for the floor, others drew stone for the fireplace and prepared sticks and mud for the chimney. The floor being laid, next came desks and seats. Large holes were bored in a log on each side of the room, wooden pins were driven in, and a slab or unplanned plank laid on these pins. For seats, holes were bored in puncheons and legs driven in, two at each end. Windows were made by cutting out a log nearly the whole length of the house, leaving a hole a foot wide. Into this was filled a sort of lattice work of sticks, and upon this greased paper was pasted to transmit the light. Such was the schoolhouse of sixty-five years ago. It was not much of a structure but there was no great contrast between it and the homes of its builders. There was





no lack of ventilation, and the wood was not too long for the fire-place. School opened in charge of W. H. Jones, of whom mention has been made in a previous chapter, his services having been secured at a salary of \$7 per month. He was severe and exacting; punishments were the order of the day. Whispering and other indiscretions subjected the offender to blows with a ferule upon the palm of the hand; and so freely did Mr. Jones administer chastisement, that the patrons were obliged to request him to moderate his punishment, as the hands of their boys were so sore from repeated flogging that they were unable to use the ax. It was a species of torture to strike the tips of the gathered fingers with the ferule, and this was disapproved by the settlers, inured to rough usages as they were. Only two branches of education were taught—reading and writing. The example of this neighborhood was contagious, and soon a house was built near the place of David Studabaker, and a man named Montgomery was hired as teacher. Gradually schoolhouses became more numerous, and the demand for teachers in some measure induced a supply. Summer schools were rare. Females made no application till an adventurous woman, named Anna Boleyn, attempted a three-months term during the summer of 1825, but quit in disgust before the expiration of that time. Despite liberal provisions favorable to education, little had been done up to 1838 toward perfecting a system of common schools, the result of the scanty means and constant toil incident to pioneer life. No inconsiderable portion of early history is that which treats of marriage customs, first births in the county, deaths and cemeteries.

The arrival of a family occasioned eager inquiry by young men as to whether there were any marriageable daughters of the number. The demand was in excess of the supply. The same maiden had sometimes several suitors; this involved the delicate matter of rejection as well as of choice. Sometimes the girls were betrothed before leaving home, and a knowledge of this fact caused disappointment. For a long time after the first settlement of the county, the people generally married young. The parties differed little in fortune, and none in rank. First impressions of love resulted in marriage and a family establishment cost only a little labor. Weddings occupied the attention of the entire neighborhood, and the event was an hilarious occasion, anticipated by old and young. This is readily understood when it is considered that a wedding was almost the only gathering not accompanied by labor. The marriage ceremony was arranged to take place before dinner, which was a substantial feast of beer, pork, fowls, and sometimes venison and bear meat, roasted and boiled, with abundance of potatoes and other vegetables. Dinner was free from formality, and a time for mirth and enjoyment. There was dancing after dinner. "The figures of the dances were three and four handed reels or square sets and jigs. The commencement was always a square four, which was followed by what was called jigging it off; that is, two of the four would single out for a jig, and were followed by the remaining couple. The jigs were often accompanied with what was called cutting out, that is, when either of the parties became tired of the dance, on intimation the place was supplied by some one of the company without any interruption of the dance. In this way the amusement was often continued till the musician was heartily tired of his situation." Among marriages in pioneer days, was that of Ultry to his brother's widow; they had lived together some time during the inoperative period before the election of justices, and when a justice was chosen, they were legally married. In a spirit of joviality a party of young people being resolved to have a marriage, seized upon a man named Israel Wertz and fitted him out with a suit. One of the party furnished leggins, another some other article of dress until he was properly clothed, and then calling upon a woman named Jane Dugan, asked her if she was willing to marry Wertz. She replied affirmatively, and they all started for the house of Alexander Smith, a Justice of the Peace who lived east of Greenville. Wertz repented and broke away, upon which a dog was set after him, and he was caught and held. The ceremony was then performed.





and the twain thus singularly made one lived many years together happily and both finally died of old age.

Instances of seduction and bastardy were rare, and could not take place without great danger from the brothers or other relatives of the injured party, as family honor was highly estimated. Divorce was accounted dishonorable, and was seldom a resort. The statistical reports for 1877 give, of marriages that year, in Darke, 334; suits for divorce pending, 23; brought within the year, 41—total, 64. Brought by husband, 26; wife, 38. Principal causes were, absence, neglect, incontinence and cruelty.

The burial customs of sixty years ago differed much from those of to-day. When a death occurred, neighbors would call in, take the measure of the body, and procure a plain coffin, at a cost rarely exceeding \$5. A neighbor possessed of a team brought the coffin to the house and conveyed the body to the grave. Ruder sepulture was not infrequent. No costly shaft marked the spot where their dust reposes, but plain head-board. Cemeteries were known as graveyards, and some families had a burial plat of their own, as the Sumptions. We close by a brief extract from the record of what is known as the Old Graveyard, at Greenville, which was deeded by John and Margaret Devor to the Trustees of the M. E. Church, July 15, 1818. The deed is recorded in Book A 1, R. 74, and the bounds are as follows: Southeast by Water street, and running along the said street eight poles and fourteen poles, to the rear, so as to include the burying-ground at the north end of town, and to contain 112 square rods—excepting two square rods, to be used as a burying-ground by each and every person who has heretofore occupied any part of said lots for that purpose." The conveyance was a donation, since the consideration was \$1. The grounds were laid out, fenced and left to be populated as the wearied and worn here "laid themselves down in their last sleep."

#### DARKE COUNTY IN 1840—CELEBRATION—COMMEMORATION—MASS MEETING AT GREENVILLE.

It was during the period of heated political debate that Greenville and Darke County began to emerge from the gloom and obscurity of nature, where they had lain from time unknown, and to aspire for place among older and sister counties of the State. You glance over her townships, and you find them thickly settled still. You find that in ten years her population has more than doubled. The 6,204 of 1830 has now become 13,145, or twenty inhabitants to the square mile. Of its eighteen townships, Greenville leads, with a population of 1,851. Four others, Harrison, German, Butler and Twin, have over 1,000 each, while Mississinewa enumerated but 124. Greenville, the county seat, contained four churches, sixteen mercantile stores, a flouring-mill, a printing office and about 800 inhabitants. The lands wear a wild look. There is an abundance of fine poplar, walnut, blue ash, beech, hickory and sugar maple. It has won a reputation for the production of excellent wheat, and is reputed to be well adapted to grazing. The woods still abound in game. The heavy timber stretches almost unbroken for miles, not alone over the low and swampy but along the higher lands. Cattle range at will through the woods, and the swine run wild and savage in droves. Land ranges in value, from the Government price, to \$12 per acre, the latter for improved farms. Soil, relieved of heavier growth, sustained rank and luxuriant grasses, while furnishing but scant supply of wheat and other grains. The old cry of milk sickness and fevers was now changed, and it was said of Darke County that its chief products were "pumpkins and hoop poles," and in this there was much of truth, especially in regard to hoop-poles, since, at this date, they were the only article of export. During the winter, the principal employment of farmers was wagoning these hoop-poles to Germantown, Middletown, Lewisburg and other markets, and by this means they were enabled to measurably supply themselves with salt, groceries,



leather and other necessities. This supplied the county with ready money that would otherwise have been badly missed. Away now in the past the county seat was seen, with a population of about three hundred, many of those were poor, and had hard scratching to get a living. There were two stores, a blacksmith-shop and a whisky-shop, two doctors' offices, an antiquated brick court house in a spacious public square, a brick jail, a single ordinary frame church building, and a small log schoolhouse. There were a few respectable looking private dwellings, but most of the houses were shabby and were widely scattered, south and southeast of the square. The streets were more nominal than real; the nearest actual being that which runs south from the square, in the direction of the old fort, and which held the business of the place. This was all changed in 1840; the town had far more than doubled its population, and indications of business growth were apparent. New buildings had been erected, new stores started, new men had moved in, and they had brought some capital with them: Allan La Mott and John D. Farrar had opened dry goods in 1830, the next year W. B. Beall and Francis Waring started stores; then, in 1832, came John C. Potter, and the veteran merchant of Greenville, Henry Arnold, now, in 1840, in business with H. N. Arnold, who three years before had been a partner with James M. Dorsey, an arrival of 1833; besides these, there were Townsend, Bailey, Beall and Bascom. Lawyers were not wanting: of these were Gen. Bell and Dempsey, and of doctors, Baskerville, Ayres, Buell and Gard. Greenville had two hotels now. They were earlier known as taverns. Mrs. Armstrong was the pioneer. Then came Moses Scott, who provided entertainment for man and beast until 1824, when he moved to Fort Wayne, Ind. Linus Bascom, in 1817, opened public house, down where stands Hall & Hine's livery stable. A. Scribner was cotemporary with Scott: James Craig was successor to the latter. Craig gave way to Edward Shaffer. Then we come to 1840. Charles Hutchins is the proprietor of a two-story brick house, erected in 1837, on the east side, and Frank Hamilton located in a two-story frame, on the south side, of the public square. Notwithstanding the somewhat humble pretensions of the latter, it had the prestige of seniority over its more costly neighbor and vigorous rival, besides being honored by guests renowned and distinguished. During 1840, here stopped the hero and patriot of North Bend, who, from its uppermost porch, addressed the gathered multitude, upon the issues dividing political parties. The urbane, courteous hospitality of the frame was matched by the grandeur of the brick, whose proprietor received the suffrages of the people as the County Treasurer.

The postal facilities gradually approached an ability to transnit intelligence within reasonable time. A. Scribner had been appointed in 1815, and had but nominal duties to perform. His successors were Carleton Morris and David Monroe. He then recovered the position which he held till 1833, when Judge John Wharry became the incumbent, and, after several years, gave way to a successor. The office was not in a room by itself, but occupied a small portion of the store or other room of the Postmaster, and was auxiliary to the business.

Dempsey, of whom mention has been made, a man small in stature but large enough to attract notice at the National Capital, had not long been resident of Greenville before he was favored by Van Buren's administration with the appointment of Postmaster, and at once combined the threefold duties of law, trade and public functionary, having his law and post office in his store. The change of administration again returned the office to Scribner. Although Greenville was flourishing at an unprecedented rate at this time, it had few attractions, and was lacking in many essential elements to solid improvement and prosperity. It had need of a good printing press. E. Donnellan had printed and published a newspaper then known as the *Western Statesman and Greenville Courier*, the initial number bearing date of June 25, 1832. It was of super-royal size, was published irregularly, had a sickly existence and upon its subscription list there were some two hundred and fifty names. Its mottoes were excellent, its prospectuses were frequent, but its duration was brief. A good flouring-mill was a needful thing.





This was not a local want ; the entire county needed better and more reliable milling facilities which had hardly kept pace with the development of the country.

Soon after Harrison's treaty, Maj. Adams, an old soldier of Wayne's army, erected a kind of chopping-mill, five miles below Greenville, upon the later site of the mills of Oliver & Co. Cotemporary with Adams were Mathias and Aaron Dean, who, having built a saw-mill three miles above Greenville, had attached thereto a "corn-cracker." Neither ground much wheat. Bolting was done by hand, each customer bolting his own grist. Somewhat later, Andrew Noftsinger put up a grist-mill on Mud Creek, below the outlet of the lake, on the later site of Otwell's Mills. The bolting here was done by hand, and could not supply the demands of the people. Wheat had to be taken to the mouth of Greenville Creek, to Milton or to Whitewater to be ground. In dry times the grist was left, and at a specified time it was promised to be ground, and the farmer went back for it, and, in the bad condition of the roads, this made a two days' trip.

The next improvement was a horse-mill, put up by John Puderbaugh, on the east side of West Branch Prairie. This mill afforded fair facilities for grinding in winter while other mills were frozen up. Two neighbors, going together, set out before day with harnessed horses and a sack of corn on each horse. If, on reaching the mill, it was found to be thronged, a neighborly feeling was shown. Each got part of his grist ground, but there was no meal left to require a return, for the old miller had thriftily connected with the mill a small copper still, which turned out a very desirable quality of whisky which was always readily exchangeable for corn.

Then all drank liquor as a beverage. Children were solicited to drink by parents, and, when too raw and strong, it was blended with sweetening, and in it the bread was soaked. It was everywhere indispensable, called for on all occasions and in all places pronounced good and desirable. Quality was reputed good, drunkards were said to have been few, and cases of delirium tremens were unknown.

In 1840, Briggs' mill, two miles below town ; Dean's, three ; Cole's, five miles above on the creek, and Clapp's, six or seven miles west of town, afforded accommodations, but, at the same time, they were regarded as but a shade above refined corn-crackers. Otwell's mill, nine miles southwest of Greenville on Mud Creek, was originally one of the same sort, but it had changed hands several times, and with each change had received repairs that made it, perhaps, the best mill in Darke County. This and a new steam mill started in the vicinity of Palestine by a man named Cloyd, did most of the wheat grinding, but when a drought came, as was the case most every fall, the whole country had to go to Stillwater, a distance of some twenty or twenty-five miles. Fortunately, at such times the roads were dry and solid ; teams could haul good loads without interruption. At any other season, except when the ground was hard frozen, the roads were so intolerably bad that teams could scarcely pass with empty wagons. In the summer of 1833, Patterson had on a load of five barrels of flour drawn by three stout horses and all were mired in a "slough."

Besides these grist-mills, there were several saw-mills scattered around on the small streams, which answered the purpose so far as they went, but they did not go far enough to meet the demands of the county for lumber. Steam had not then come into use, except in the single instance above named.

Many predicted that would be a failure, there existed such a prejudice against steam as a propelling power. It was generally believed that water was the only force that could be profitably used in running any kind of machinery. With these backward appliances, there was still another establishment in the shape of a "carding machine and fulling-mill," located some three miles west of town, on what was then called West Branch, which was owned and run by Benjamin & Jack Devor. This was the only machinery of the kind in the county. Andrew Smith was foreman of the concern and had an apprentice. This mill was a





valuable aid to the labors of the women, for homespun in 1840 was still the order of the day. It was only on occasions of weddings that people indulged in "broad-cloth and Swiss mull." After the ceremony, the garments were carefully laid away and held as proud relics of a precious memory. Matron and maid still spun and wove, as had the mothers and aunts of twenty years before. A delicate chintz, held as a reserve for Sunday occasions, was carefully preserved and worn, and if the fair owner chose to walk barefooted to church, a distance of several miles, custom accorded that privilege, provided the feet were dressed during service. To preserve the shoes in good order, they were taken along wrapped in a handkerchief, and if the happy gallant could secure the privilege of carrying the parcel, he felt highly honored.

We have elsewhere spoken of education and religion. Besides these religious meetings in grove and camp, carrying with them an absorbing influence, there was still another gathering of a military character, the "Big Muster," as it was called, which was held annually at Greenville. This was simply an assembly of the county militia to exercise in the manual of arms, but it was regarded by some of the men, and by the boys generally, as the day for which all other days were made. The showy uniforms, the stirring martial music, bright muskets, gay cockades and measured tramp, the melons, ginger-cakes, cider and other supplies were a great attraction to the boys. Israel Cox proudly put in his appearance as fitter, and well he might, as he was acknowledged the best in the county. He had no known equal. His brother John was no ordinary performer, but when Israel moved at the head of the column, accompanied by his favorite drummer, his mastery was universally conceded.

Among the well-known and esteemed men of that day were Gavin Hamilton, Jacob Hamilton—a friend of and judge of honor—John, who resided at Tecumseh Point in a two-story frame house, James, a clever, country blacksmith, Joseph and Andrew, good farmers. The brothers, James and Alexander Craig, carried on a wagon and blacksmith-shop in Greenville to the manifest advantage of the public. Riley Knox, a young lawyer of promise, had just entered upon his profession. He delivered an oration at a celebration of the 4th of July, in 1838 or 1839, which was considered a masterly production for one so young. William Wilson was his preceptor, and took him in as a law partner. Among the worthy and notable farmers of that day were John and Aaron Hiller, Joseph Croll, John Martin, Samuel Cole, Sr., Philip Manuel, George Diverly, William McKhann, James and Thomas McGinnis, William and Samuel Rush, William Morningstar and James Bryson, a few there of the many whose iron wills held all vantage-ground, and continually extended their domain.

A few of the boys of that day were David, Theodore and Thomas Beers, John Devor, Jack and Frank Scribner, William Douglass, Calvin McNeil, John Hiller, Jr., Levi Elston, William and James McKhann, Martin Brady, J. and H. Bryson, Benjamin and Andrew Croll, Samuel, Joseph and Henry Cole, John Henning, Jr., James and Barton Hays, Zack and Ben Clark and many another the old resident will recall to mind. Levi and Amos Potter found homes elsewhere. Some have passed from earth, some yet remain where they spent their youthful days together. The heads of those full of ardor then are now adorned with silver locks, premonitory of a coming change.

The celebration of the anniversary of American independence has fallen into disuse since the last great civil conflict, but for many years, it was made a holiday of the nation. A notable observance of the day was held at Greenville in 1853, and is probably remembered by many. Due notice had been given, and people began to pour into town at an early hour from all parts, not only of Darke County, but from the counties adjoining. All the public houses were crowded the night before by strangers from abroad. Military companies and firemen from Piqua arrived in the vicinity of the town at seven in the morning. An hour later and they were received by the Greenville Guards, and escorted to the town. At



the head of the column marched the Greenville Band, assisted by part of the Winchester (Ind.) Band, and discoursed appropriate airs. A train came from Dayton at 9 A. M. with 800 passengers, among whom were two military companies, the La Fayette Rifles and the National Guards and the Deluge Fire Company. These organizations were escorted by the military to their quarters in handsome style under the gratified observation of a tremendous concourse of people. At 10 A. M., a train from Union came in with many excursionists, and the streets were jammed. It was the largest crowd in the place since the meeting of 1840, of which notice will be given further on. There were citizens present from Piqua, Troy, Dayton and from Miami, Preble, Shelby, Mercer and Randolph Counties. The procession was formed at 10 A. M. under Capt. Frizell, and presented a fine sight. First came the military—five well-dressed, well-drilled companies—next followed two fire companies with engine and carriage, then came the officers of the day, the Orator and the Reader; after these were soldiers and citizens, and last of all, a large wagon bearing twenty-two young misses, one bearing the flag of our country, and each of the others a flag marked with the name of a State. At the head of the column marched the pioneers of a Dayton company. There were six bands, all of them played at the same time, and gave utterance to a confused and deafening, exciting and bewildering medley of sounds as the procession passed on their way to the grove. Arrived at the stand, the military opened ranks, through which dignitaries and others passed to the stand. The audience was seated. The military drew up in line and fired a round of musketry. After stand exercises, there was a dinner, then a parade and reviews, after which, as the trains came in, the visitors started homeward; wearied as is usual on such days, with tramping along the streets in heat and dust, but fully satisfied with what had been seen and heard at the notable celebration.

The commemoration of the disaster at Fort Recovery was an occasion of an immense assemblage of the people. By accident, the remains buried in one of the shallow trenches became unearthed, and it was deemed a duty to honor the memory of the fallen by a decent and final interment of their remains, accompanied by appropriate ceremonies. The time set for the ceremonies was fixed at September 10, 1851, and, on that day, from five to seven thousand persons had assembled at the appointed hour. Curiosity drew many, but the greater portion came with a due sense of the service done by these fallen soldiers, and, too, there were relatives and descendants amid the gathered throng.

The bones of some three hundred skeletons were found and placed in thirteen large coffins. Upon the skulls were seen the marks of scalping-knife and hatchet, bringing the far-away past into the present like a dissolving view. At an early hour, the procession was formed and assembled to perform the rites required. There were distinguished men among those who eulogized the slain and depicted the events of the bloody fray. Among them were Gen. Bell, member of Congress of Greenville, B. Stover and Abner Haines. Finally, a resolution was passed to petition Congress to raise a monument over the dust of these fallen men, and at the same time it was voted to ask for a monument at Greenville upon the identical spot where Wayne concluded his memorable treaty. The monuments have not been erected, and these men are remembered only in the fragmentary recollections of pioneer and press, but their lives were not laid down in vain, and their efforts to protect the homes of the frontiersmen are as well worth enshrining on historic pages as are those who fought for national independence, for a country's honor, or for the perpetuity of an unbroken union of the States.

Still another outpouring of the people, worthy of fitting record, was the enthusiastic mass-meeting in Greenville on the 22d of July, 1840, during the remarkable political contest when "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" was the popular cry, before which the party in power was hurled from position as dry leaves before the wind. It is estimated that more than one hundred thousand visitors were present.





Up to this time, political enthusiasm had never reached a very high pitch among the hardy settlers, but now the excitement was as great in the woods of Darke County as it was in Hamilton County in Ohio, or in any of the older States, and when it was announced, weeks in advance, that "Old Tip" would address the people, the surrounding country went wild. Immense delegations came from Kentucky, Indiana and Michigan. There were more than three hundred ladies present from Kentucky, and the gallants of the backwoods were so much smitten by their graces of person, manners and apparel that from that time till after the election all the *young* men were Whigs, and "log cabins, canoes and coon-skins" became the symbols of their faith, and "hard cider" the favorite libation. Many of the delegations were headed by log cabins on wheels, drawn by horses, and, in one or two instances, by oxen. One delegation from one of the river counties was headed by a monster canoe mounted on wheels, in which were twenty-seven young ladies, representing the twenty-six States and the Goddess of Liberty. This canoe was drawn by ten white horses. The meeting was held just west of the town, in a beautiful grove. Facing the speaker's stand, or rather encircling it on three sides, was a bank, well shaded and affording comfortable seats for the vast throng. This natural amphitheater could not have been improved had it been designed for this special occasion. The various delegations as they approached the town were met by one of the "Greenville bands" and escorted in with honor. A brief description of these musical companies will not be without some degree of interest. The "band" par excellence consisted of William Morningstar, mounted on a fine horse, and his instrument a violin, upon which he was no mean performer. He met each delegation in turn, and gave them a medley comprising several of the rollicking airs to which the campaign songs were sung—"Hail to the Chief," "Bonaparte's March," with the more inspiring strains of "Soldier's Joy" and "Money Musk," and thus, with the booming of cannon and the cheers of the excited multitude, the delegations were welcomed. The other bands, consisting of drums and fifes, although less singular, were much more noisy, and far and near the martial music resounded, stimulating the feelings, accelerating pulsation, and with rattle and roll of drum and shrill, clear shriek of fife, performing the air of "Yankee Doodle," and intensifying the excitement with the "double drag." The principal speakers were Tom Corwin and Gen. Harrison. Corwin argued that the re-election of Van Buren would be the signal for a reduction in the prices of labor and of all American products, and, in support of his plea, read several advertisements of well-known produce dealers from Whig newspapers, somewhat after the following effect: "On and after the 1st of December, 1840, the subscriber will pay \$1 per bushel for wheat if Harrison be elected, and 40 cents if the election favors Van Buren." Similar notices concerning corn and hogs were also read from the advertising columns of the party press. Various arguments were presented by Corwin in a way and with a force that brought conviction to many a close listener. The speech of Harrison was characterized as an able and eloquent statesmanlike effort in support of republican institutions. He also devoted considerable time to personal reminiscence, and won over many warm friends from the opposing party. He remained two or three days in Greenville, the guest of Mr. Scribner, and, in company with his host and neighbors, visited many points of interest in the town and its environs. The old merchant and tavern-keeper had been a staunch Democrat, but, from this time on, became and continued an ardent supporter of the hero of Tippecanoe.

#### GEOGRAPHICAL—SITUATION—AREA—TOWNSHIPS—VILLAGES.

Darke County lies in the extreme western part of the State, a little south of the center, adjoining Indiana on the west. It is bounded by Mercer and Auglaize Counties on the north, by Preble and Montgomery on the south and on the east by Shelby





and Miami. The area is 588 square miles. Its outlines nearly describe a rectangle, its greater extent being north and south. In accordance with an act passed by the General Assembly of December, 1803, incorporating townships and establishing boards of County Commissioners, the county of Darke from its sparse population was originally organized into one township and known as Greenville. On July 3, 1817, Twin Township was taken from the south end of Greenville, and embraced all the county south of a line running due east from the southwest corner of Section 31, Township 11 north, Range 1. In the same month, Wayne was created from the northern part of Greenville, and embraced within its limits all of the county north of a line beginning at the northwest corner of Township 12 north, Range 1 east; thence east to the northwest corner of Township 9 north, Range 4 east; thence south to the middle of said township, and thence east to the county line. In February, 1818, Harrison was formed and, in March, 1819, all of Greenville Township that lay in Range 1 was formed into a new township entitled Washington, and, in the same month, Adams was formed from all lands in the county, east of a line running south from the northwest corner of Section 4, Township 10, Range 3, to the southwest corner of Section 28, Township 9, Range 3. In September, 1820, two tiers of sections across the north end of Greenville Township with parts of Wayne and Adams were formed into a new township called Richland, and, in 1821, Neaves Township was laid out, taking four tiers of sections from the south side of the old township. In March, 1829, all of Richland lying in Township 12 north, Range 2 east, was transferred back to Greenville, and also Section 31, of Township 13 north, Range 2. This last section was afterward returned, leaving Greenville as now constituted. German was constituted in 1820; Brown and Jackson in 1833; Gibson and Monroe in 1836; York in 1837, from Richland; Van Buren in 1838; Allen, north end of Brown, north end of Jackson, and Mississinewa, in 1839; also Franklin in June of the same year; Wabash, Patterson and Butler in 1841. In 1840, Gibson Township, about one-half of Allen and parts of Patterson and Wabash were taken from Darke and attached to Mercer County. There are at present twenty civil townships—Patterson, Wabash, Allen, Mississinewa, Jackson, Brown, York, Richland, Wayne, Adams, Greenville, Washington, German, Neaves, Van Buren, Franklin, Monroe, Twin, Butler and Harrison. Within their area are contained eight incorporated towns and twenty-five villages. Greenville has priority from age and has always been the capital of the county. Here, as elsewhere stated, are court house, jail and all the conveniences for officials, courts and criminals; here are some of the oldest churches in the county: here lived men prominent in letters, and here was started the first newspaper published in Darke. The place is rich in its historic associations. Near the city are the fair grounds, a notable feature of a leading agricultural section. It is situated on Greenville Creek, in the township of Greenville, ninety-two miles west of Columbus, and ten from the Indiana line.

It has manifest advantages from turnpikes and railroads, and of later years has made a fair use of them. It was laid out in 1810, and incorporated in 1832. It has a national bank, fine churches, good business houses, a handsome and capacious school building, a number of elegant and costly residences fitted up with tasteful grounds. The Turpen House, a large hotel, together with the Wagner House, offers excellent accommodations to guests: and the city and county support three newspapers. Postal facilities, fire department and other agencies for business, comfort and safety are well supplied. The incorporated towns are New Madison, laid out in 1817, incorporated, 1841, and situated ten miles southwest of Greenville, near the site of old Fort Black: it is a fine thriving place. Versailles, platted in 1819, and duly incorporated in 1855, and located in Wayne Township; Union City, a flourishing place on the State line, platted in 1838, and incorporated in 1853, and a lively railroad center; Gettysburg, incorporated in 1866; Dallas, in 1867; Arcanum, platted in 1849 and incorporated in 1858, and Bradford, platted in 1867, and incorporated in 1871. The villages are thus enumerated: Minatown, laid out in 1818; Fort Jefferson, same year, remarkable as



the first work built as a fort in the county; New Castine and Ithaca, in 1832; Braffetttsville and Palestine, in 1833; Webster, 1835; Beamsville and New Harrison, in 1837; Hollandsburg, 1838; North Jacksonville and Gettysburg, 1842; Dallas, 1845; Sampson, 1846; Hill Grove and Coleville, in 1848; Gordon, 1849; Tampico, 1850; Rose Hill, 1852; De Lisle, 1853; Nevada, 1854; Stelvidio, in the same year, and Woodland, in 1859. There was now an interval of seven years, during which the stormy scenes of warfare embittered feeling and absorbed public attention, but again the current rolled on, and, in 1866, Pikeville was platted, next Bradford; then Rossville, in 1868, Painter Creek in 1870, and Woodington in 1871. A number of these are promising, prosperous villages, while others are lively hamlets, convenient of resort for meals, grists, trade, lumber conveniences and church privileges. Fine pikes bearing the name of the village of which they are a terminus, or through which they extend, render wheeling convenient and make all points accessible, regardless of seasons. Railroads traverse the townships in various directions, and the difficulties of early transportation are now unknown. The obstacles of the past cannot be conceived from any observation of the present. The fields traversed by open or covered drains, and bearing fine crops of wheat and corn, the groves free from all undergrowth, and the unobstructed streams, require personal knowledge or strong faith to believe the stories of the battles of civilization with the rude, strong elements of nature.

The county occupies a position inclining its surface southward from the western limits of the great watershed dividing the basins of the Wabash and the Miami. It is classified as a portion of Southern Ohio. A good knowledge of the general topography of the county, so far as relates to the dip of the land and changes induced by the action of water, is afforded by the statement that "the summit ridge enters the county in the northeastern part, bearing southwest through the northern part of Patterson Township, through the southern parts of Wabash and Allen, and passing out near the middle of Jackson Township." Persons familiar with lands like situated, could derive analogous information of the surface or contour features of this and give proper weight to agencies concerned in alluvial deposits and erosure of higher lands. The general surface is, in the main, flat, and slopes almost uniformly from the summit line northwest and southeast; there are, therefore, no distinct topographical features to avert the sight. Something approximating monotony is presented by the basins of Greenville and Stillwater Creeks, the numerous wild and beautiful cairns and other variations originating in local causes. There are occasional striking manifestations perceived upon the underlying rocks of a tremendous erosive power, but the deposit of an average of 100 feet of drift, conceals most effectively this truth, and the surface contour presents no indication of this interesting geologic fact. Portions of the surface are a level plain, others are hilly and undulating, while to the northeast there is low, waste, inundated land, rich in its deposit of vegetable debris, treacherous to the foot and useless for cultivation, till ultimately co-operative drainage shall render its wealth available.

The summit ridge is not strongly marked, nor is it of uneven outline. For ages, active agencies have divested the surface of loose material and worn down inequalities until we simply behold a broad, rounded belt of elevated land. The rock, gradually crumbling has been swept down as varied alkali clays, and spread as a layer over the low, wet basins of the Wabash and Stillwater, thereby commingling with the black, loamy soil, and supplying those elements of fertility which have given this section its reputation, while leveling the early broken outlines of surface. The ridge is yet prominent, as it bounds the line of the extreme southern limits of the northern lakes and stands as a marked feature in the topography of the State.

The highest land in the region of the divide is in the northwest portion of the county. A little north of Union City, the altitude above low-water mark in the Ohio at Cincinnati, is 665 feet, which is the highest accurately known. On the







*A. A. Inelau*

HARRISON TP.



W. H. Jackson

1860



crest of the slope between the Stillwater and the Wabash, the land has an elevation thirty feet less than at the point named. On the line between Darke and Mercer, the elevation is 634 feet, although places in this vicinity have a possible altitude of 700 feet. The elevation at Greenville is about 590 feet, while, on the county line between Darke and Preble, in Harrison Township, there is a descent to 551 feet. At Ithaca, Twin Township, the elevation is 557 feet above the Ohio. The greatest depression is considered to exist along the bottom of Greenville Creek, in Adams Township, where the elevation is but 520 feet, while the bluffs in the vicinity rise 20 feet higher. Lake Erie is 133 feet higher than the Ohio, and taking the former as a basis, these altitudes must be diminished to that extent for comparison. From this we find the highest land is 567 feet above Lake Erie, or 1,132 feet above the level of the sea.

In the study of these surface features, it is remarkable, that but one of these primitive lakes once so numerous and still frequently met with upon the watershed in counties eastward, exists here. It is known as the "Black Swamp," and the extensive drainage is reducing its immense deposits of vegetable matter to the character of a bog.

Peat bogs are found in different parts of the county. Near Weaver's Station there is a peat deposit of two to three feet in depth, resting upon the limestone, and is a substance well calculated as a fertilizer for the more sterile, high clay lands. Just to the southwest of Greenville, on Mud Creek Prairie, which was formerly submerged almost to its source in Harrison Township, there is a considerable deposit of peat. To the southeast of the city, about one and a half miles, another is found. An incident illustrating the singular character of one of these peat bogs has been thus given: "Many years ago, in the construction of the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati & Indianapolis Railroad in the northern part of the county, the route of the track necessitated the running over one of these peat bogs. To the apparently dry loam, with its dense growth of vegetation, was added sufficient gravel and other material to complete the bed of the road, and in due time the rails were laid and the track used. But one morning, not long after, as the train came along, a great break was espied; the track had evidently disappeared, and, upon investigation, the truth was revealed. The track, instead of crossing over a dry peat bog, was rather laid over a hidden lake. Vast quantities of mosses and aquatic plants, together with branches, trunks of trees, and other accumulations, had collected until they had formed, as it were, a super-aquatic soil of several feet in thickness, and of such a remarkable density and buoyancy as to support, for a time, the weight of a passing train.

Darke County was, to a certain extent, divided into prairie and timber land, and these were so interspersed that some farms were advantageously composed of tillable and woodland in fair proportions and compact form. Those so fortunate as to have acquired this land were indeed favored. The timber at once supplied building material, fences and fuel, and when a market opened, the forest wood was utilized and the ground cleared for tillage. Much the greater portion of the soil of Darke is well known to be rich and fertile to a remarkable degree, and the appearance of the farms strongly contrasts with those that may be seen in many other counties, and suggests a long-settled section. It is an actual granary of corn, oats and wheat. The yield is annually large and the quality is excellent. This fine yield is almost entirely the result of the drift. Deposits of clay, sand and gravel acted upon by heat, cold, air and streams, blended with vegetation and animal life for ages, have formed the present productive soil which gives celebrity to Darke and adjacent counties. The clays and sand become separated from the hardpan; the rocks crumble under the alternate thaws and frosts, and their debris was washed downward upon the bottoms and assisted by vegetation; plants grew and decayed; overflowing streams dissolving mingled these materials, and thereby produced a rich and varied soil. Three classes of soil are characteristic of this section, that of clay, of alluvial and of turf. The first-named predominates.

The American Medical Association is a national organization of physicians and surgeons, organized for the purpose of promoting the interests of the medical profession and the public. It was founded in 1846 and has since that time been a leading force in the development of the medical profession in this country. The Association is composed of more than 40,000 members, who are organized into local, state, and national societies. The Association's primary concern is the advancement of the medical profession, and it has achieved this through a variety of means, including the publication of the Journal of the American Medical Association, the holding of annual conventions, and the establishment of various committees and commissions. The Journal of the American Medical Association is a weekly publication that contains a wide variety of articles, including original research, clinical reports, and reviews of the literature. It is one of the most important sources of information for physicians and surgeons in this country, and it is also a valuable resource for the general public. The Association's annual convention is one of the largest and most important events in the medical profession, and it provides an opportunity for physicians and surgeons from all over the country to meet and discuss the latest developments in their field. The Association also has a number of other programs and activities, including the establishment of medical schools and hospitals, and the provision of medical care to the poor. The Association's efforts have been instrumental in the development of the medical profession in this country, and it continues to be a leading force in the advancement of the medical profession and the public.

and is a particular constituent of the region of watershed and all other uplands or higher portions of the county. Its hue is varied from yellow to red and brown. It is seen upon the crest of the divide to be of an almost white or ashen color from the weathering and drainage. This soil is in places solid and tenacious, but in the main is free and porous. The former is of value in the manufacture of brick and tile; the latter is renowned for the crops of wheat and kindred cereals produced. The alluvial or bottom is of a black, loamy character, blending with a considerable amount of decayed plant matter and leavened with silica; it is free, mealy and fertile, the natural soil for corn, which thrives thereon remarkably. The turf soil is of a dark gray color, covering the primitive surface, which, where it prevails, is low but dry. It is seen to advantage in freshly cleared forest lands, and blends clay with vegetable growth, and is adapted for the growth of pumpkins, potatoes and the like, together with the lesser grains.

The natural products of Darke County were those little known to the present occupants. The times when Jefferson and Greenville were built and trains of pack-horses traveled the traces of armies, saw an unbroken forest stretching from the Ohio away to the shores of the Great Lakes. Here could be seen the various oaks, white, red, black, burr, chestnut and pin; sugar and swamp maples, the former rich with the juices of the frosty spring's rising sap; the sassafras, whose root bark made healthful drink; the white and slippery elms, the latter with its viscous inner bark; the walnuts, black and white, the one prized by the cabinet-maker, the other known as the "butternut," and freighted in the falltime with brown oval nuts; the sycamore, as often known as "buttonwood;" the shagbark hickory, whose bark gave light for evening labor; and besides all these, the cottonwood, the flowering dogwood, the buckeye, the white ash, the beech, and a sprinkling of black cherry, mulberry, thorn, iron wood, black willow, wild plum, and trembling aspen. The sap of the sugar maple supplied the pioneers with sirup, sugar and vinegar, and from the earliest days till now this manufacture of a native product has been a springtime occupation. Pickles were made by placing freshly plucked cucumbers in a mixture of one part whisky to four of water, and a little salt. They were soon fitted for use. Molasses was made from pumpkins, and pared pumpkin, stewed, was placed in the juice, boiled down, allspice was added and pumpkin butter made. Early fruit was of indifferent quality, but later years were marked by attention to its cultivation. The apple thrives, and in 1877, over twenty-five thousand bushels were produced from the orchards. The peach is foreign to this region, and to partake of this fine fruit it is needful to plant out trees each year. Pears thrive with ordinary attention, and during the year last named the product in this county was upward of a thousand bushels.

While the position of her territory admits no rivers, the lands are not deficient in water-courses. The numerous springs and surface drainage occasion many water-ways, which, from proximity to their sources, are but headwaters of ultimate large streams. The chief stream is known as Greenville Creek, which has its origin in the northern divide, a short distance without the county. Conforming to the direction of slope land, it flows in an almost uniformly southeast course, until arrested by the bluff upon which the county seat is located; its course trends around its cairn toward the northeast, and then, with many a curve and turn, runs eastward to its junction with the Stillwater in Miami County. All its affluents are received from the south, since the highlands on the north press close upon its bank and divert all its streams into the basin of the Stillwater. Painter's Creek drains the county to the south, and the two constitute a system of which there may be said to be four—small, but clearly outlined.

Stillwater Creek rises in the summit ridge, in the northern part of the county, and traverses the shallow valley lying between the plateau and the watershed. Like Greenville Creek, it pursues an easterly course, following the natural inclination of the surface. The rivulets which form its affluents originate in the clayey



the first of these is the fact that the United States is a young nation, and that its history is a history of growth and development. The second is the fact that the United States is a large nation, and that its history is a history of expansion and conquest. The third is the fact that the United States is a diverse nation, and that its history is a history of conflict and compromise. The fourth is the fact that the United States is a nation of immigrants, and that its history is a history of assimilation and integration. The fifth is the fact that the United States is a nation of pioneers, and that its history is a history of exploration and discovery. The sixth is the fact that the United States is a nation of inventors, and that its history is a history of innovation and progress. The seventh is the fact that the United States is a nation of leaders, and that its history is a history of vision and leadership. The eighth is the fact that the United States is a nation of heroes, and that its history is a history of courage and sacrifice. The ninth is the fact that the United States is a nation of dreamers, and that its history is a history of hope and aspiration. The tenth is the fact that the United States is a nation of believers, and that its history is a history of faith and conviction. The eleventh is the fact that the United States is a nation of doers, and that its history is a history of action and achievement. The twelfth is the fact that the United States is a nation of builders, and that its history is a history of construction and creation. The thirteenth is the fact that the United States is a nation of defenders, and that its history is a history of protection and preservation. The fourteenth is the fact that the United States is a nation of reformers, and that its history is a history of change and improvement. The fifteenth is the fact that the United States is a nation of visionaries, and that its history is a history of foresight and planning. The sixteenth is the fact that the United States is a nation of visionaries, and that its history is a history of foresight and planning. The seventeenth is the fact that the United States is a nation of visionaries, and that its history is a history of foresight and planning. The eighteenth is the fact that the United States is a nation of visionaries, and that its history is a history of foresight and planning. The nineteenth is the fact that the United States is a nation of visionaries, and that its history is a history of foresight and planning. The twentieth is the fact that the United States is a nation of visionaries, and that its history is a history of foresight and planning.

drift deposits of the divide. This and the Greenville system drain the most fertile lands of the county. The once well-known "spread of the Stillwater" has been rendered the richest and most productive of soils by removing obstructions in the water-course and by ditching.

The Mississinawa and the Wabash rise upon the northern slope of the divide. A little further east these streams would be directed toward Lake Erie, but are intercepted by Wabash Ridge and turned westward into Indiana. Not much area is drained by these headwaters in Darke County, where the basin of the Wabash begins in a narrow, gentle valley, which gradually broadens into an immensely fertile belt in its course through Northeastern and Central Indiana. This course of the Wabash to the southeast may be thought to indicate the course of an ancient gap whereby waters and icebergs were borne into the valley of the Stillwater. Upon a different declivity far to the southward in the county, are the sources of Whitewater, Miller's and Twin Creeks, together with other creeks of minor importance. All these streams are shallow in the main, and flow within modern basins, the greatest elevation of Greenville Creek not exceeding about thirty feet.

Many fine springs are found in different parts of the county. The well-water, as well as the spring-water along the water-sheds, is sulphurous and not desirable for use. Near Weaver's Station, New Madison and that vicinity occur numerous springs, which rise upon the surface of the magnesian limestone, and which are in consequence impregnated with carbonate of lime, magnesia and other mineral properties exuded from the rock and the clay. Thus mineral springs exist, some of whose waters are as fully charged with minerals as are the famous Cedar Spring of New Paris, Preble County. The supply of water is of ample volume and good quality. The best well-water is obtained from a depth varying from thirty to fifty feet, and is drawn from the deposits of sand and gravel upon the surface of blue clay. All in all, situation, soil, climate and product unite to make Darke County one of the most desirable portions of the State.

#### AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND MARKETS.

Darke County has a soil, a climate and a local position which constitute the essentials of a first-class agricultural county. For a time, the wave of immigration swept around her lands and beyond, but ultimately those far seeing selected from her territory their farms and began their work. Half a century ago, Darke County was yet in a state of nature, except here and there where the pioneer had kindled his camp-fire and cut away a small area of timber from about his dwelling: then the settler had at his option the best land in the county, and his successors continued to make choice until not only the bottoms along the streams and the more inviting upland was entered, but even the "flats" and "slushes," that the settlers thought "would forever remain unentered, and give pasture and range for their stock." The virgin soil produced in abundance with indifferent tillage, and the woods supplied meats for the table.

The ax was vigorously plied, the deadening was extended, and from spring to spring time again, the smoke could be seen to rise from the clearing. Little by little improvements were made, one succeeding another, and here and there the old settlers died until it is seen to-day, that the foundation and the founders are passing from memory in present labors. As was said by Hon. Abner Haines before the agricultural society on September 18, 1853. "The early settlers had many obstacles to contend with in the development of the country which no longer obstruct the progress of this generation. It required much labor to clear the land and prepare it for cultivation. This labor has been performed, leaving to the present generation time to think and improve, as well as to work." We have in earlier chapters depicted the perils and the crudities of early agriculture. We see the settlers flying in panic from their homes, from dread of the hatchet, suffering from





chills and fever, hindered by insufficient implements from doing good farming, deprived of access to store and shop, without roads, almost without mills, and dependent upon the soil and the forest for the supply of every want. It is well worth a review to note the gradual transition of field, dwelling, habits and persons, machinery, stock and crops, bringing soil and occupant to the front, the one to become celebrated, the other to be marked as independent and progressive. Old times have passed away; the ax, the maul and wedges, the sickle, the scythe, and hoe are relics now of a past system. Splitting rails is no longer an occupation, though the most common fence is still the zig-zag rail fence. The cradle displaced the sickle, to be itself superseded by the Dorsey Reaper, and then others improved to the present perfection. The stumps are gone from the clearings, the log houses have been abandoned, used as granaries and stables, torn away or rotted down, the old well-sweeps have all finally disappeared, and, annually at the old and prosperous agricultural fair, are seen the various plows, chilled, diamond, champion, sulky and others, so of cultivators, corn-planters, seed-drills, harrows, pulverizers, harvesters, hay-rakes, thrashers and separators, each contrasting to the experienced mind, changes of method in agriculture, relieving the husbandman of toil, and assuring in uniformity and perfection in preparation and cultivation a yield of profit and the means of ready harvesting, thrashing and marketing. Contrast the dropping of corn and covering with the hoe, with the swift movements of the planter, the irregular broadcast sowing by lands or landmarks with the seed-drill, the former harrow with the present, the old reaper even with its man to rake off the gavels with the self-dropper, the old method of haying with scythes laying the swaths, with hand-rakes forming the windrows, with forks placing in cocks, and finally the wearisome labor of pitching and stowing away in the barns, in striking contrast to the music of the mower as the farmer rides, always leaving circles about his meadow, shaving and spreading the grasses at each round, the buggy-rake gathering with wide sweeps, the hay-fork and hoisting tackle depositing the fragrant hay in the capacious bay for winter's food to choice breeds of domestic animals.

The staple grain product of Darke has constantly been corn. Fully twice as many acres have been devoted to this cereal as to any other. It has always played an important part in the agriculture of the country. From being the almost sole dependence for food to the farmer, it has become the source of an important income by export, as well as food for stock. Next in order came wheat, always desirable for food, not so certain as corn, and of later years a second great source of profit to the farmer. In the earlier day, the market was at the mills of Piqua, where the farmers went with doubled teams upon a three-days trip to realize from 35 to 40 cents a bushel. Reports were circulated of good prices, a rush of teaming followed and the market was overstocked. About 1837 or 1838, a colony of Germans moved into Darke and bought rejected lands, entered some and paid as high as \$12 to \$16 per acre for farms partially improved, and gave a stimulus to farming, but it was not till after the completion of the first railroad, a dozen years before the pikes began to have an existence, that that the most powerful stimulus was given to agriculture.

We have elsewhere noted a variegated soil, well adapted to wheat, corn, rye, flax, potatoes and various grasses. The improved facilities for market of surplus products and the influence of a newly formed agricultural society, produced a marked and favorable change in farming, and became apparent in every department. The year 1853 may be regarded as the revival of agriculture. The fertility of the soil seems to have been realized, plowing was deeper, manuring was begun, rotation of crops was considered, farm lands were extended by clearing woodland and by bringing into cultivation swamp lands, much of which had been deemed valueless, through the application of judicious draining; there was improvement in agricultural implements, and the greatest interest and progress seems to have been made in the breeds of domestic animals. The building of the Pan Handle enhanced values, bringing wheat to 75 cents a bushel and making prices for land



It will be seen that this year the county was rapidly growing into note and importance, growing out of an ability to enjoy natural and local advantages. Farmers from the Eastern States, and industrious foreigners, were constantly moving in and occupying the new lands. Now, at last, the capabilities of Darke were to be realized. Her territory was extensive, fertile and mainly serviceable. The crops of small grains were generally sure and abundant, and confidence not altogether devoid of speculation seized upon the minds of the residents of towns and the dwellers upon the farms.

To present at a glance the condition of agriculture in Darke twenty-seven years ago, we refer to the following table of

#### THE STATISTICS OF 1853.

The valuation of the 371,053 acres of land in the county was placed at \$4,211,-\$58, or an average of \$11.35 per acre: the value of buildings was estimated to be \$399,734, while the aggregated value of all taxables was nearly \$5,000,000. This was a net increase over 1846, but seven years previous, of \$2,297,144. There were now of arable or plow lands, 98,542 acres: of meadows and pasture, 22,469, and of woodland and uncultivated, 250,863; this gives us about 60 per cent yet in a state of nature. The wheat crop of 1852 was 324,958 bushels, and of corn, 661,019. There were of domestic animals 8,798 horses, 14 mules, 19,717 cattle, 23,731 sheep, and 45,010 hogs.

Four years later, improved farms about Greenville were held at \$40 per acre, at which figure several changed ownership. Among them was the sale of 152½ acres by W. A. Weston to John C. Schmidt, for \$6,100; L. H. Byran sold 97 acres for \$4,000; and Tunis Denise disposed of 80 acres at the same rate. These figures premise rise in values and wealth of purchasers.

The future was not less prosperous than the past; an aroused intelligence, increased numbers, ready appliances and the command of means brought Darke County, during the years up to 1860, and thence to 1868, into the front rank in all staple products of the State. In the yield of wheat for the eight years from 1860 to 1868, Darke stands fifth among the foremost ten counties, and in average per acre the seventh. She had during these years turned her energies to the construction of pikes, and speedily advanced toward the van. A writer of that day thus depicts the local feeling: "Ours is a level county, a rich soil susceptible of easy, rapid, cheap cultivation and yielding bountifully to the husbandman who is up with the day, in the purchase and use of improved farm machinery. Darke is not dark, but as smiling, beautiful, healthy and pleasant a locality as can be found in the country, possessing good schools and fine dwellings."

The following was the annual yield of wheat from 1860 to 1868, inclusive: 554,149 bushels, 437,004, 671,355, 505,972, 493,513, 340,611, 260,611, 337,550. During 1863-64, the yield brought Darke to the fifth from the first in the State. The total yield for the eight years was 3,610,756 bushels. The county stood ninth in corn product in 1866, with a yield of 1,397,968 bushels; in barley the sixth, and in flax culture the fourth. She stood second in the number of turnpikes, there being 34, with an aggregate length of 293 miles, and, in 1868, ranked eleventh in the number and value of horses, there being 11,300, valued at \$756,139.

We come now to the statistics of the year 1878: Acres of land, 377,450; Their valuation, \$10,937,000; real estate in city, towns and villages, was assessed at \$1,902,250; chattel property at \$5,659,180; the grand total of the assessment is, therefore, seen to be \$18,498,430; the total amount of taxes assessed for all purposes was \$248,330.50; the county levy was \$24,048; for the poor, \$9,100; bridges, \$89,000; roads, \$21,000; townships, \$18,000; for school purposes, \$66,000, and by city, towns and villages, \$17,000. The value of merchant's stock was \$296,185; of manufacture, \$35,775; of moneys, \$209,781; credit book account, etc., \$1,354,229; interest on the irreducible State debt on account of Section 16,





for school fund, was \$5,135.92; debt of separate school districts, \$38,850; the total debt in 1878 amounted to \$42,550, which was a reduction as compared with 1877, of \$48,341. The banks gave as capital, the national, \$84,000; three private, \$59,500—a total of \$143,500. The sale of lands for the year ending June 30, 1878, was 28,540 acres for \$1,063,412. Three hundred deeds were recorded, for which the consideration was \$207,192; 782 mortgages were made to secure \$501,936. There were canceled 237, releasing \$543,327. Reverting particularly to the source of all these values, we find the following agricultural showing: Acreage of wheat, 35,423, product, 513,105 bushels; acreage of rye, 2,351, product, 36,591 bushels; acreage of buckwheat, 373, product, 4,354 bushels; acreage of oats, 18,044, product 627,495; acreage of barley, 2,666, product, 77,182; acreage of corn, 71,416, product, 2,013,594; total acreage, 133,273, total product, 3,172,321 bushels; acreage of timothy, 1,053, product in tons, 13,684; acreage of clover, 10,180, product in tons, 5,527; bushels of seed, 3,711; pasture lands, 2,611 acres; flax product from 2,481 acres, 21,270 bushels, 55,850 pounds fiber; potatoes product from 1,659 acres, 114,264 bushels; sweet potatoes from 38 acres, 2,229 bushels; tobacco from 793 acres, 836,296 pounds; sorghum from 552 acres, 168 pounds of sugar, 37,020 gallons of sirup; maple sugar, 1,736 pounds, and 5,614 gallons of sirup manufactured; hives of honey-bees, 2,144, producing 17,186 pounds of honey. There was of taxable land cultivated, 190,935 acres; pasture, 14,578 acres; woodland, 100,279 acres; uncultivated or waste, 9,310—total, 315,111 acres. It is most remarkable that the remnant of waste land should have been reduced to less than 10,000 acres. The following were the dairy products: butter, 714,036 pounds; cheese, 245 pounds. Of stock there were 13,157 horses, valued at \$724,198; 21,189 cattle valued at \$293,699; 462 mules valued at \$29,196; 51,605 hogs valued at \$110,894; 7,787 sheep valued at 18,967; wool product was 18,981 pounds. The assessment of dogs is a curious feature, bearing the following showing: There were listed as worth \$50 and under, 241 valued at \$2,724, and exceeding that figure, 2,514 valued at \$134,824. Horticultural interests do not make much prominent showing, there being, however, 5,548 acres devoted to orchards, principally apples. Associations of persons engaged in like pursuits furnish opportunity to disseminate information, compare experiences, examine machinery and stimulate exertion.

It was not until 1852, that leading agriculturists conferring, resolved upon the organization of an agricultural society, of which we have the following:

#### HISTORY OF THE DARKE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

On November 16, 1852, some thirty citizens, from all parts of the county, met at the court house at Greenville and organized a county agricultural society, by appointing N. Gard, President, Alfred Kitchen, Treasurer, and Noah Arnold, Secretary. A committee of one from each township was appointed to procure subscriptions, and Messrs. Wilson, Northrup and Kitchen were appointed to report a constitution and by-laws. The society was organized November 24, 1852, and within a year numbered 320 members. The first annual fair was held at Greenville on the 7th and 8th of September; attendance large, competition spirited, exhibits respectable. The Greenville ladies made it attractive by a leafy bower for the reception of dairy products, domestic work and flowers.

As early as 1853, the local press was earnest in the use of its influence to interest the public in the support of such a society as would be of service to town and county, in a less or greater degree, and, on April 10, the Greenville *Journal* contained the following editorial: "The officers and managers of this association are using every effort in their power to insure to their fall exhibition a character of interest that will call together a very great assembly of competitors and spectators. Their list of premiums is extensive and liberal. They contemplate making a large inclosure. The various committees are attending faithfully to the discharge





of their duties. From present indications, the first Darke County Fair will be quite creditable to our producers. The spirit of emulation awakened by this move will leave its impress. Darke County has the soil, has all the advantages of a great producing region, and all should conclude to be present on the 7th and 8th of September next." This was followed by other timely articles during the months of July and August. In a paper called *The Mad Anthony*, published in Greenville September 14, 1853, we read: "The Darke County Agricultural Fair proved to be all that its friends could have wished. The occasion is one that will long be remembered. We have had the pleasure of attending several old-established county fairs throughout the State, and can safely assert that we have never yet witnessed a better display of stock than was exhibited in Greenville on the 7th and 8th. The committee had spared no pains to fit up the grounds in an appropriate manner, and had ample accommodations for every article offered. On the whole, the exhibition reflects great credit upon our county, and should inspire every citizen with zeal in the cause. We anticipate having one of the largest county fairs ever held in the State next fall." In the same paper, two weeks later, the following paragraph appeared: "We understand that Darke County was not thrown altogether in the shade by her more stately neighbors at the State Fair. She was awarded the first premium on flour, wheat, poultry, apples, potatoes, the best quality of white lime and other articles. Don't be ashamed, now, to admit that you hail from 'way out in Darke County.'" The *Mad Anthony* must have been propitiated by the receipt of two specimen apples grown by William McKhann, of the county, one of which weighed one and three-fourths pounds. The records have not been accessible to us till 1857, when, on November 25, pursuant to notice, the Board of Directors met at the office of M. Spayd and organized, pursuant to their election September 25 previous. Members present, Moses Hart, President; J. W. Shively, Vice President; M. Spayd, Secretary; Joseph Bryson, Treasurer, and Managers George Elston, Isaac Funk and Reuben Lowry. A committee was appointed to draft a constitution and code of by-laws. The bond of the Treasurer for \$1,000 was accepted April 17, 1858, and approved, and the annual fair appointed for the 23d to the 25th of September following, at the old fair ground south of Greenville. A "complete set of good, substantial books for the use of this society" was also authorized. Committees were appointed to purchase lumber for a fence around the said grounds, and to arrange a premium list. At a meeting held on the 22d of May, the Secretary was instructed to get information from parties resident of the counties of Preble, Miami and Montgomery, regarding the selection from those localities of persons suitable to act as judges on stock. On the 3d of July, the new constitution and by-laws were adopted. The following preamble will be of interest to the reader in this connection: "Whereas, it appears, from the constitution heretofore adopted by the Darke County Agricultural Society, that the same is inefficient and defective, and, for the purpose of more thoroughly and effectually promoting the general interests of said Society in our representative capacity, we do alter and amend said constitution." Alterations rectifying defects were accordingly made. On August 25, there was held a meeting, at which delegates were appointed to confer with like parties from Miami and such other counties as might be represented, concerning a plan for the establishment of a district agricultural society, and the report of this committee was thereafter approved, and it was recommended that a district fair be held in rotation in each of the several counties concerned, in lieu of the fair for that county the same year. The number of entries made for live stock, grain, etc., prior to the opening of the sixth county, or first district, fair, held in the fall of 1858, was not promising, but on the first day the rush to make entries was remarkable. The Secretary, with the regular aid of two assistants, and the occasional aid of a third, was tasked to his utmost to wait upon exhibitors and make the number of entries desired. The attendance, apart from exhibitors, was meager. About one hundred day tickets were sold, and about three times as many family passes. Considerable



stock arrived this day, and the owners took pains to show to advantage. The reader of the following excerpt, taken from the Secretary's report, will admit that that official was endowed with descriptive powers quite beyond what is usual: "The weather was very pleasant, the air was calm and temperate, the skies unclouded, and the atmosphere filled with a mellow haze which gave everything a softer hue and a milder aspect, constituting one of those delightful autumnal days in which nature seems to be reposing from her toils and labors of the past summer, and to be rejoicing in her own loveliness and beauty. The grounds were undisturbed by drunken revels or beastly brawls, thus presaging a good and agreeable time coming."

The second day was equally propitious and brought a concourse of people much greater than has ever before visited the grounds—the number being variously estimated at from four to six thousand. All departments were well filled, and the floral hall was especially attractive. The third and last day of the fair opened ominously, with gloomy and blustering weather, but soon the cloud rifted and again the grounds were crowded, but the throng was perceptibly less than on the day preceding. Following the award of premiums and the reception of the reports of committees, an election of officers for the ensuing year was held with the following result: President, J. Townsend; Vice President, Dr. James Rubey; Secretary, M. Spayd; Treasurer, George Studabaker; Managers, George Keister, John Plessinger, John McClure, James Grimes and James Aulett. Much spirit was manifested upon the track; the ladies' equestrian contest won general admiration and a liberal premium. "The boys" engaged in a riding match which won applause, and during the afternoon the Greenville "Yagers" entered the fair-ground in full uniform, under command of Gen. Craner, and the proceedings were closed with a fine display of the military. The receipts from all sources were \$1,594.99; from fair, \$838.01; premiums paid, \$384.75; balance in treasury, January 3, 1859, \$275.19.

We have supplied the description of this, the first fair under the auspices of the new organization in detail, because, in many respects, it had its counterpart in those which followed.

As the time drew near for the annual fair of 1859, the Secretary was ordered at a meeting held April 23, to prepare and cause to be published and printed in pamphlet form, the premium list, and this, no doubt, contributed to the attendance at the fair which opened on the 4th of October. The Secretary and four assistants were kept busy recording the many entries. The second day is described as "an atmospherical phenomenon, a paragon of autumnal beauty." The grounds had been increased materially in extent, yet the woods were filled with vehicles, and the whole area was alive with people. On October 6, the last day of the fair, the attendance reached its maximum. Receipts of the season nearly doubled those of any previous fair in Darke County, there having been taken for tickets \$1,332.23, and from all sources, including balance in the treasury, January 3, 1859, \$2,376.86. Balance on hand, January 2, 1860, \$869.73. The fair of 1860 is not recorded on the books of the society. Quite a large sum had been expended in improvement of the grounds, but the political excitement just prior to the outbreak of the war had so diverted the attention of the people from civil interests, that the receipts fell some \$200 below the current expenses. On February 16, 1861, the Board of Directors met to enter upon the discharge of their duties. There were present President H. B. Vail, Vice President Levi Graver, Secretary Noah Arnold, and Managers Robert Drew, James McCabe, Nicholas York, John Stoltz and George Shively. August 10, the President was authorized to borrow \$400, and at the next meeting, an additional loan of \$50 was sanctioned. The fair opened October 2, and during the first three days of its continuance, the weather was fine and attendance large. An encouraging number of entries was made, but on the fourth and final day, there was a falling-off, partly owing to unfavorable weather. The receipts were sufficient to extricate the society from its indebtedness, but a definite statement has not been made.





On January 18, 1862, it being the time set for choice of officers, William Turner was chosen President, John Stoltz, Vice President; J. E. Matchett, Secretary; J. F. Bertch, Treasurer, and J. Townsend, George Shively, A. R. Doty, C. C. Walker and David Thompson, Managers. In common with every other interest and organization, the effect of the war was felt in a marked degree upon the society, and at a meeting held August 15, 1862, the following preamble and resolution were adopted:

*Whereas*, In consequence of great excitement in military circles, our young men having mostly volunteered in the service of their country, the public mind being very much unsettled thereby,

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Board it will be inexpedient to hold a fair, and that none will be holden the present season."

On December 27, 1862, John E. Matchett was appointed a delegate to represent the Darke County Agricultural Society in the State Agricultural Convention, to be held in Columbus on January 7, 1863. The Board met on January 31, 1863, to elect officers, but, their being *no* electors present, adjourned sine die.

No fairs were held during the years 1862-64, but with the return of peace came a revival of agricultural interests. July 22, 1865, the Board of Agriculture for Darke County met at the court house in Greenville, in response to a published call. The following resolutions were passed:

*Resolved*, That we hold a county fair on the old fair grounds, near town, on the 28th, 29th and 30th days of September next.

*Resolved*, That the Board solicit a temporary loan, by subscription, of \$1,000 from the citizens of this county for the purpose of enabling it to purchase lumber to fence the grounds preparatory to holding said fair.

Following the appointment of various committees, the meeting adjourned. At the next meeting, on August 8, the Committee on Subscription reported a collectable subscription of \$1,000. The fair proved a success in all regards. There was large attendance, numerous entries, and receipts fully equaled the most sanguine expectations. The general expression of managers and people was that "Darke was herself again," and that the fair was this year, as it had been in former times, a great success. The total receipts from all sources, including loans, was \$3,792.97, and there was a credit balance, after defraying all expenses, of \$103.72. The officers elect for 1866 were: President, H. B. Vail; Vice President, John Stoltz; Secretary, Noah Arnold, Treasurer, John E. Matchett and eight Directors, named as follows: J. Townsend, J. W. Porter, H. Bichel, M. Zich, to serve one year; for two years, A. Gaskell, N. Arnold, G. W. Studabaker and C. C. Walker. From the 26th to the 29th days of September, inclusive, were fixed upon as the time for holding the next annual fair. It was resolved to make an effort to purchase grounds for the society to hold its fairs in the future," and a committee was appointed to take the matter in charge. On March 17, 1866, a proposition from Messrs. Dawes & Turpen for the sale of the lot south of the railroad for \$2,000, was accepted by resolution, and a committee appointed to close the contract. Report was made April 7, that the purchase had been completed of the entire tract south of the railroad for the designated sum—one-half cash in hand, the remainder in one year, with interest at 6 per cent. The contract was at once approved, and a certificate drawn on the Treasurer for \$1,000, the society having that amount of money and collaterals. At a subsequent meeting, 48,000 feet of poplar lumber was ordered to be purchased for inclosure.

Owing to bad roads and unfavorable weather, the attendance at the fair, although larger than was expected, was comparatively small, yet it was no failure in the number of entries, the quality of animals, the article shown, nor in the receipts.

The officers for 1867 were: John L. Winner, President; H. Mills, Vice President, and the new members of the board—Moses Hart, J. E. Matchett, John Stoltz and George Ivester. The entries and attendance at the fair this year, October 2 to 5, inclusive, was the largest in the history of the society. There was fine

The first part of the book is devoted to a general history of the United States from the discovery of the continent to the present time. It is divided into three main periods: the colonial period, the revolutionary period, and the federal period. The colonial period is characterized by the struggle for independence from Great Britain. The revolutionary period is marked by the American Revolution and the establishment of the new government. The federal period is the period of the growth and development of the United States as a nation.

The second part of the book is devoted to a detailed history of the United States from the discovery of the continent to the present time. It is divided into three main periods: the colonial period, the revolutionary period, and the federal period. The colonial period is characterized by the struggle for independence from Great Britain. The revolutionary period is marked by the American Revolution and the establishment of the new government. The federal period is the period of the growth and development of the United States as a nation.

The third part of the book is devoted to a detailed history of the United States from the discovery of the continent to the present time. It is divided into three main periods: the colonial period, the revolutionary period, and the federal period. The colonial period is characterized by the struggle for independence from Great Britain. The revolutionary period is marked by the American Revolution and the establishment of the new government. The federal period is the period of the growth and development of the United States as a nation.



weather. The stock, products and articles entered were better; the displays in floral hall, and especially in the fine arts and domestic manufactures were particularly good; the contest on the race course was unusually spirited, and everything passed off agreeably to all concerned.

A special meeting was called March 21, 1868, to lease additional grounds, and a committee was appointed to contract, if possible, with Isaac Rush, for five acres. On August 29, it was ordered that hereafter all gambling be excluded from the grounds. The fair for 1868 opened September 30 and closed October 3. The first day was rainy, unfavorable, with small attendance; this continued until noon of the second day, but it cleared off in the afternoon, and from then to the close there was large attendance. The receipts were \$1,775.10. The following officers were chosen January 9, 1869: D. Noggle, President; G. W. Studabaker, Vice President. The new members of the board were J. E. Matchett, S. Shepherd, G. D. Medford and George Elston, and shortly after it was decided to fence the fair grounds. The fair began September 28, and continued four days, with favorable weather, numerous entries, a fine assemblage and good interest. The number of tickets sold on the third day, exclusive of family tickets, was 1,707. The display of fast horses drew the attention of a large crowd. On the last day, the trotting premium of \$100 was won by the horse of William T. Ball, mile heats, three best in five; time, 2:57, 2:52 and 2:51. Receipts of the fair were \$2,297.85, yet a loan of \$500 was required to pay off the premiums. The officers elect for 1870 were: H. Mills, President; David Noggle, Vice President; new Managers were C. C. Walker, I. D. Parent, N. Arnold and J. T. Martz.

On March 26, 1870, a committee was appointed to rent the grounds during the summer, reserving the privilege of granting the use of the track during the time, to any person or persons who may solicit the same for the training of horses, and also the privilege of permitting picnics and other public gatherings to be held thereon during the said time. At the next meeting, the conditions were modified and the grounds rented to A. H. Vandyke for \$25. The society partially relinquished control of the track, but reserved the right to permit picnics, political meetings and other public gatherings to be held on the grounds during the time of the rental. An entry fee of 10 per cent on all premiums of \$5 and over was ordered to be hereafter collected at the time said entries were made, and there was to be no deductions on the premiums offered, and it was further decided that any persons who might bring stock to place upon exhibition should not be permitted to pass in any one to care for or take charge of the stock, unless the admittance fee of such party had first been paid. The price of family tickets was fixed at \$1 each; single day tickets, 25 cents; a wagon 20 cents, or good during the fair, 50 cents. The premium list was carefully considered and revised. All second prizes were fixed at half the amount of the first, except bands, which were set at \$25 and \$15. The premium of \$15 on vocal music and \$20 on cabinet of natural curiosities were stricken from the list, and \$100 was borrowed to redeem outstanding orders.

On June 30, the contract for building a permanent picket fence was let to Abraham Black, the lowest bidder. Seven hundred dollars were borrowed to defray the expenses of erecting this fence, and 12 per cent was paid on this indebtedness. A committee was appointed to supervise the erection of buildings, sheds, etc., and 5,000 feet of lumber were ordered. The need of more lumber to complete improvements caused an additional debt of \$150.

The fair was held during the latter days of September, 1870. There was fine weather with dusty roads and track. There was a notable display of farm implements, and a fine turnout of blooded stock, but entries in this department were barred by inability of owners to establish pedigrees. A number of newspaper reporters and correspondents were the guests of the board on the second day, from Cincinnati, Richmond and other places. It was estimated that 7,500 people were present on the third day. The receipts were \$3,013.97; subsequent receipts from sale of lumber increased the amount by \$586.06. The officers for 1871 were: George





D. Miller, President; George W. Brawley, Vice President, and Managers—James Hopper, John M. Hall, Amos Hahn and George Elston. The treasury contained less than \$100 in uncollected notes, accounts and cash, and \$50 was borrowed to meet orders issued. On the 1st of April, 40,000 feet of lumber, dressed on one side, was ordered for roofing buildings, etc., and in July a committee was appointed, in connection with one from the Joint Stock Agricultural, Mechanical and Horticultural Association, to consult with the County Commissioners relative to the future disposal of the fair grounds. Following considerable discussion and a tie vote, the President ruled in favor of a proposition to hold a horse fair on August 18 and 19. There was \$400 borrowed to apply on payment of lumber purchased.

Having included in our history of the Darke County Agricultural Society nearly every important item from its organization up to 1871, and the details during the last ten years being easily accessible to the general public, only a brief outline of what has transpired up to 1880 will be supplied. The fair of 1871, held early in October, was attended by a multitude of people, as many as eight to ten thousand being reported present on the second day. The officers for 1872 were H. Mills, President; A. H. Vandyke, Vice President, and new Managers—G. D. Miller, J. T. Martz, James McCabe and N. Arnold. J. J. Martz was chosen Secretary and Amos Hahn, Treasurer. The "horse fair" proposition was this year defeated. The fair for 1872 was a notable success. There were, in round numbers, twelve hundred entries, and, from sale of tickets, it was seen that 9,494 persons were on the grounds.

The election of 1873 resulted in the choice of John M. Hall, President; H. Mills, Vice President; new Managers—Daniel Walker, James Hopper, Amos Hahn and I. N. Shively. The Treasurer and Secretary of the previous year were retained. In the early part of the year, the board procured the written consent of the County Commissioners to sell the fair grounds, provided they purchase other grounds with the proceeds of the sale. Soon after this, the grounds embracing 17.19 acres in the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 34, Township 12, Range 2 east, were sold to J. W. Sater, and, on June 7, forty acres were bought of Messrs. O'Brien & Martz for a new ground. The price being \$125 per acre, involved an outlay of \$5,000, besides the no inconsiderable sum required for fencing and general improvements. The fair began September 22, continued five days and gave universal satisfaction. On the third day, it was estimated that 9,000 persons were within the inclosure, and the expression was heard that "these are the very grounds we want." The officers for 1874 were: H. Mills, President; John M. Hall, Vice President; new Managers—David Thompson, J. T. Martz, Arnold and McCabe. The others as before. This year the fair was held during the first days of September. Entries were being made on the first day by the Secretary and three assistants, and were continued until late at night. The crowd was very great the next day, and despite the intention to close entries at noon, the number and eagerness of the crowd to enter articles for exhibition were so great that the time was extended until the close of the day. The principal attraction of the day was the trial of speed of horses. The attendance on the third, estimated by tickets, was above 12,000; there were 1,000 wagons on the ground, and the sale of single tickets realized \$3,604. The expression was heard that the grounds were too small. There were 1,800 entries. The racing elicited lively interest from the presence on the course of noted horses from Centerville, Urbana, and from Fort Wayne, Ind. The fourth day was clear above, but the dust was almost unendurable. Many of the finer articles of needlework, etc., on exhibition were badly soiled, and it became evident that to insure the prosperity of this department in the future, a building must be erected which should combine security of goods at night with means of protection from the dust or storm by day. The show of stock, products and implements was creditable, and the test of speed seemed to have been fairly and satisfactorily made. The final day presented the attraction of the ladies' equestrian performance. In competing for the premium of a





lady's saddle and bridle, valued at \$40. there were four entries, and we would have been glad to record the one successful did we know her name. A balloon ascension failed, through no fault of the managers. The result of the fair financially was gratifying, but who can estimate the benefit derived from the commingling here and interchange of opinion of the great body of farmers. By this agency, the manufacturer was brought to acquaintance of his patrons, and premiums given by capable men, directed where the best machinery could be obtained. Step by step, a progress was made toward permanent and advantageous improvements, now evident in all parts of the county. Arrangements were made, close following the conclusion of the fair, to construct a dwelling on the grounds, to be occupied by a family whose duty it should be to take charge of the property.

The officers for 1875 were John Townsend, President; Thomas McCowan, Vice President; new Managers—Michael Noggle, J. C. Turpen, I. N. Shively and A. F. Koop; Mr. Martz remained Secretary and Mr. Koop was chosen Treasurer. The fair was held somewhat later; the weather was chill and unpleasant. Few entries were made the first day, and prospects unfavorable, nor was the second day much more encouraging, but the entries were beyond hopes, and it was found necessary to keep the books open till dark. The third day was mild, pleasant and drew a crowd. Over 8,000 persons and 900 vehicles came upon the grounds. The interest centered upon the races, and bets were publicly made on the ground, "the police making no effort to prevent the same." A balloon ascension took place at 3 P. M. to the full satisfaction of a gazing multitude. The descent was gradually and safely accomplished to the southern part of the old fair ground. The final day saw a diminished throng; awards proved satisfactory. Again public wagers were noticed—a scandal heretofore unknown to the fair—and again there was a balloon ascension. The daring aeronaut attained a great altitude, and came to the surface just east of the Elston pike near the corporation line.

The officers for 1876 were: Thomas McCowan, President; Mr. Townsend, Vice President, and new Managers—G. W. Studabaker, Sr., J. N. Lowry, E. Lecklider and N. M. Wilson; J. C. Turpen now became Secretary; Mr. Koop having resigned as Treasurer and Manager, George W. Studabaker was appointed to the former office, and H. S. York to the vacant position on the board.

Again, September came around. It had now become usual to employ the first two days in entering articles and stock for exhibition. Farm products, poultry, stock and implements were well represented, but there was a falling-off in the display of furniture.

The morning of the day was rainy, drizzling showers fell until nearly noon, and the clouds looked threatening all the day, yet there were present seven to eight thousand people. The races "drew" as before, the "ascension" was again a success, although twice accomplished.

The election of 1877 caused Messrs. McCowan and Townsend to exchange positions. Messrs. Shively, York, Noggle and Turpen were chosen managers, the Treasurer was continued, and Mr. Turpen elected Secretary. An addition was made to Floral Hall during the summer, for the disposition of plants and flowers. The fair opened with a fair representation of the several departments. The horse and the cattle stalls were nearly all rented, additional pens were required for sheep and swine, and at the fine art hall, so great was the number of plants and flowers brought in, that an addition had to be extemporized for that department also. The third or exhibition day was bright and pleasant. The gate-keepers were obliged to call for assistance. The attendance was about ten thousand, besides hundreds of vehicles. So dusty grew the ground, that the board determined to employ a sprinkler for the next day. The fair held its own as in times past in attendance and harmonious action.

Officers for 1878 were same as previous year. The pay of help was reduced 10 per cent, as follows: Chief of Police, gate-keepers and assistants of Treasurer and Secretary, each \$2.25 per day; the hall committee \$1.35, and a proposition





from the Greenville Band to play during the three days for \$75 less thirteen or more family tickets was accepted. The annual fair began September 17. There were a great many entries, but the "district pacing race," set for the second day, failed to become an attraction. The exhibit of cattle, poultry, grain and fruits was particularly good. On the third day, at 7 A. M., the population of Darke County "and the rest of the United States" began to stream through the gates, at 25 cents a head, children under twelve years of age being free. The Secretary had asserted, and it now came true, that "this day will pass into the history of the Agricultural Society as one of the most successful in every way since its organization." Concerning the final day we quote: "O most inglorious day! O day that made officers, managers, exhibitors and visitors, especially the 'horse men,' say words out of the Bible! 'The rain, the rain, how beautiful is the rain, after the dust and heat, in the crowded street and in the narrow lane,' but not under the present circumstances. It was about 10 A. M. when all were taken by surprise by the showers that began to fall most heavily. The people rapidly took their departure without waiting to hear the band play 'Sweet Home.'" It was the opinion of the managers that the races should not be held, but they yielded to the importunities of those who remained. The receipts from this exhibition were \$4,651.44.

The officers remained practically the same in 1879, save that a new manager, S. Rynearson, was chosen, and William Sullivan appointed Secretary. The race-course was remodeled during the summer and lengthened to a half-mile, under the supervision of C. O'Brien. Other alterations and repairs were made during the same season. The fair lasted this fall only four days. So much stock arrived on the day previous that parties were kept busy in their proper bestowal. It had been advertised that a match trot for a purse of \$200 would come off on the opening day (September 16), and the result was an attendance of fully two thousand four hundred persons. The Secretary and assistants were busied all day and thence on to midnight making entries from memoranda supplied by exhibitors. The weather was cool during the second day; about four thousand were present. The books were kept open till noon, and due diligence was exercised in expediting entries, but this department was obliged to close before full record could be made. Carpenters were engaged all day building stalls and pens, and night found considerable stock unsheltered. The races, stimulated by the surging multitude, proved very exciting. It had been announced that Gov. Bishop would deliver an agricultural address during the fair. He arrived at Greenville on the night of the 17th, and by noon of the next day, the people and vehicles gathered from all points far and near. The "grove" seemed literally packed with wagon, buggy and other conveyances, while there was a perfect jam of people in and about the various halls. The Governor came upon the ground about 11 A. M., and from the band-stand delivered a short address, congratulating the citizens of Darke County upon their rapid advance in agriculture, and their good fortune in having selected such a fertile spot for their homes.

The managers of awards had anticipated their duties, and the business progressed rapidly toward completion harmoniously. Committees on horses, cattle, sheep and hogs reported an unusually fine display in those departments; more especially was this the case with swine, which was the finest exhibit of any heretofore made in the county. From 2 P. M., races claimed attention, and were continued until dark. Judging from the number of tickets sold, the number present was full 12,000. The morning of the final day was clear and cold, yet some 7,000 persons were present. About 10 A. M., the removal of stock and machinery began, and by 3 P. M. was mainly completed. Three races occupied the afternoon, a 2:30 trot for a purse of \$300, the county trot and a running race for \$125. Receipts of this fair were \$5,681.81.

Officers for 1880 are Thomas McCowan, President; John Townsend, Vice President; new managers—G. W. Studabaker, N. M. Wilson, J. N. Lowry and



Ezra Lecklider: the managers who hold over are N. S. York, Michael Noggle, S. Ryncarson and William Sullivan, who on February 3, 1880, was elected Secretary, while Mr. Studabaker continues Treasurer.

After a somewhat checkered experience financially and otherwise, that required, at times, the most prudent counsels and judicious management, as well as the hearty co-operation of friends and promoters in general, the Darke County Agricultural Society stands in the fore front of local enterprises, with a prosperous future confidently assured. Its present debt is about \$1,000, the remainder of the purchase of its new and commodious grounds, embracing forty-four acres, located one-half mile south of the city, just at the corporation line between the Jefferson and Eaton turnpikes. The buildings, fencing and other constructions and improvements are permanent and need no immediate repair nor material increase.

In addition to the credit deservedly bestowed upon the society for efficient management, there has recently been presented a new claim to the respect and esteem of community by an unanimous interdict of the sale of intoxicants on the fair grounds. We predict for the society a prosperous future, calculated to continue the county in its vantage ground of varied and enormous products, till by drainage, tillage and crops, the maximum shall be reached and held.

#### GEOLOGY.

There is no subject identified with the history of Darke County so little known and so abounding in matters of interest and value as that which treats of its rock formations. The facts stated in this chapter are drawn from the report of the Geology of Darke County, published in "Geology of Ohio." The structural geology of the county presents us with a single rock formation, upon which rest drift deposits which vary, within the bounds of Darke, in a great degree in their thickness. In some places superficial, in others of considerable depth. A study of these deposits in their various phases will tend to aid people in their search for comfort and wealth, and will decide the pursuit or abandonment of various desirable projects. The rock upon which the drifts rest is known generally as Niagara limestone, beneath which are the series designated as paleozoic. The geologists of this region thus write: "Hither the great glaciers of the north, at a very remote age, have transported and deposited all over this rocky floor, in varied depths, vast quantities of clay, gravel and boulders, on an average of 100 feet or even more. Through the action of water, or the hand of man, where there was no other impediment than a few feet of soil, in five different localities, small areas of the native rock have been exposed." Slight knowledge can be acquired of the outlines of the bed-rock, while its constituents and characters may be fully understood. This rock is of diverse texture. It has been found soft and sandy, and again crystalline in its hardness. Where it is exposed to view, it is seen unbroken and horizontal, save a single exception. In the quarries owned by Dr. Gard, a mile and a half southwest of Greenville, between the fork of Greenville and Mud Creeks, the beds of rock are found folded, with a dip to the south and east. The layers are also seen to terminate in the contiguous drift, and may be followed short distances by scattered fragments. The Niagara ledge was reached at a depth of ninety-five feet, by parties engaged in excavating the public cistern at the corner of Fourth Street and Broadway, in Greenville. Though the enterprise failed in its object to secure a supply of water, yet it rendered useful knowledge in a variety of ways. This depth is placed at the minimum to reach rock in the vicinity. The quarries mentioned lie twenty-one feet below Greenville, and are, therefore, seventy-four feet above the rock underlying the town. The same ledge crops out four and a half miles east of Greenville, at Bierley's, and is there eighty-nine feet above the rock at the county seat. Five miles south, at Maur's Station, Mud Creek flows over the horizontal limestone, showing a still greater elevation. These observations tend to locate Greenville upon a huge drift heaped in a great glacial valley. Since





The town is elevated thirty feet above the channel of the creek, its present bed first flow over detritus sixty-five feet in depth. This deposit also points to the early junction of the two streams beneath the present site of Greenville. Strong proof is supplied by Gard's quarries, which stood a bold rocky islet, around which swept the great streams which in the remote part formed this basin.

The streams flow over their original beds in three localities within the county, for short distances: Greenville Creek at Bierley's, Mud Creek at Weaver's Station and Stillwater in Wayne Township. That the excavation noticed was the work of glaciers is proved by the general horizontal position of the rock and by the smoother polished glacial striae found in the quarries. These striae bear a direction almost due south.

The superficial deposits consist of a mass of clay, sand and gravel, sometimes found in regular distinct layers, at others, heterogeneously blended. The former mark the action of water, the latter, of glacier and iceberg. There seems to be a diversity in the divisions of the deposits, as no two sections present uniform succession of parts.

The well at the Greenville gas works shows as follows:

	Feet.	Inches.
Sod and yellow clay.....	0	6
Red clay .....	1	6
Yellow clay, with pebbles and bowlders.....	8	0
Yellow sand, stratified.....	8	0
Hardpan .....	1	6
Fine blue clay, very tenacious, stratified.....	0	8
Blue sand and gravel.....	21	10
Total depth.....	42	0

The pebbles and bowlders are worn by water. The layer of blue clay is derived from melting icebergs. Surface bowlders are of greenstone, syenite, etc., while those found blended with the yellow clay were of waterlime and Niagara limestone, water-worn.

From many wells, of various depths, the following section may be taken as an acknowledged type of this region:

	Inches.	Feet.
Sod or loam.....	from 6 to	1½
Red clay.....	" 0 "	4
Yellow clay .....	" 12 "	15
Yellow sand and gravel.....	" 6 "	20
Blue sand and gravel.....	" 8 "	30
Blue clay, with pebbles.....	" 3 "	18
Fine blue clay, compact.....	" 0 "	1½
Hardpan, alternating with blue clay.....	" 10 "	20
Blue clay.....	" 3 "	9
Boulder clay.....	" 10 "	20
Total.....	" 41½ "	148½, or 95 feet average.

A noticeable feature of the drift in this locality are the sand and gravel hills which largely prevail in the county. These cairns, as they are called, are easily accessible, break the otherwise monotony of the landscape, and are nature's store-houses for the material of which the fine and numerous turnpikes have been constructed. They, also, supply abundance of building-sand, at the very places where this auxiliary is most needed.

These hills range in height from thirty to sixty feet, and are in form either conical or elongated; the latter type is the most common to this locality. It is noted that their axes lies uniformly northwest by southeast. They most abound along a line parallel to the divide, passing from the northeast through the center of the county, to its southwestern portion. Along the railroad, between Greenville and Richmond, Ind., they are in clusters; they may be seen isolated and in groups. Their shape and distribution indicate their origin, at right angles to the direction





of the watershed. There is a marked peculiarity between the cairns and the soil surrounding them. They are frequently met with in the midst of black bottom land, entirely distinct and dissimilar. Their composition is sand, gravel and a small quantity of intermixed yellow clay. The mass, generally yellow, is at varying intervals streaked with blue, and the presence of iron and sulphur is often perceivable from the red brown hue of the deposit. There is an absence of large bowlders, the pebbles are seen to be rounded and smoothed, and the sand and gravel are found interlocked in wedge-shaped layers. The pebbles are from one-half to three inches in diameter. Large fragments of rocks are sometimes found imbedded in the drift. Among varieties of this are flint, granite, shale and limestone. Wherever fossils have been discovered, they are seen to be much worn and are scarcely recognizable. A section of an isolated cairn, known as Bunker Hill, near the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railroad, one and one-half miles southwest of Greenville, gives the following:

Red clay.....	3 feet	Unassorted gravel.....	24 to 30 feet.
Fine yellow sand .....	4 "	Hardpan.....	3 "

This hill, once fifty feet in height, has been pretty much removed. A very fine section, with well-stratified layers, showing interlocking, free from bowlders, and containing pebble of blue shale and limestone, is obtained from Hetzler's gravel pit, in Adams Township. It shows series, as follows:

	Feet.	Inches.
Clayey soil.....	0	4
Yellow clay.....	1	0
Tough red clay.....	1	0
Sorted gravel.....	2	0
Fine sand.....	0	3
Unassorted gravel.....	2	0
Fine yellow sand.....	0	4
Brownish sand, coarser.....	1	0½
Bluish gravel, assorted.....	2	0
Bluish yellow sand.....	1	3
Fine bluish sand.....	4	0
Fine reddish sand and bluish gravel.....	2	0
Total depth of section.....	17	2½

Dr. Newberry speaks of these cairns as follows: "It seems that in the period of greatest submergence, the larger part of the summit of the watershed was under water, and was swept by breakers and shore waves, by which some of the beds of sand and gravel were formed which are described under the head of cairns; and I have supposed that a considerable proportion of the materials composing these cairns or eskers was derived from icebergs standing on the shoals which now form the crest of the divide." It is theorized that, in the passes of the divide, there was depth of water sufficient to float icebergs of some size. As these stranded upon the shelving slopes of the divide, or dissolved in their slow movement southward, there was set free their immense stores of mud and gravel. The gradual upheaval of the continent made the gaps in the divide, through which volumes of water continued to pour for an indefinite period, and their eddies and other agencies united to sort and shape the successive layers.

Very many bowlders are found scattered over the surface of the county, and their origin is imputed to floating ice. Two classes differing in location are observed, one finely striated, of deep-blue color and resting on the bed-rock, the other containing ordinary drift rocks and lying within a few feet of the surface. These bowlders are first observed in the northwest part of the county, along the crest of the divide, where they were set free from the stranded icebergs. We may trace them along the line of the deepest channels of the principal streams, prominent among which was Greenville Creek. We quote, "at Bierley's quarries, and in that vicinity, resting just above the Niagara limestone, in probably a foot or two of soil, they exist in a perfect jumble, sometimes two and three huge ones



piled up together. Up stream, they can be traced as a perfect moraine; below, however, they are few, though, for the most part, larger." The beds of rock were evidently a barrier at this point to the further progress of the floating ice-masses. Like, though smaller, prevalence of these large bowlders is found at all exposures in the county, and gives color to the statement of quarrymen that the presence of groups of bowlders on the surface indicates the presence of the limestone at a small depth beneath.

A belt of these iceberg-moraines extends up the left bank of the creek from Bierley's quarries, pursues a direct course at a bend of the creek, crosses and follows the north side of the Greenville & Gettysburg pike, makes a circuit through neighboring fields and returns to the creek below Knouf's mill, where the bowlders have been used in the formation of a large dam, and from this point its course is traceable toward the divide. This belt of rock was seen to advantage in the early day, upon the commons east of Greenville, before removal for building purposes. Another prominent belt of surface bowlders, three or four hundred yards in width, is seen to extend from the northern part of Van Buren Township, in a southwesterly course, crossing the Dayton & Union Railroad a few miles south of Jaysville, thence, with a bend to the southeast, through Twin Township, near Ithaca, into Preble County. Bowlders in Van Buren Township are eight to ten feet through, and there are examples where they have a diameter of twelve feet. This moraine was long regarded as impassable and untillable, but these difficulties have been overcome, and the belt produces average crops, and the rough, rocky roads are at least dry and lasting. While the peat-alluvium of this region was in process of formation, the sedgy and marshy banks of the small lakes—now peat-bogs—were haunted by the mammoth and the mastodon, whose remains are almost annually found in different parts of the county. The remains of a mastodon and an almost perfect skeleton of a mammoth, found in the peat deposits of Mud Creek Prairie, are part of the collection of Dr. G. Miesse, of Greenville. A fine tusk of a mastodon was found in the northern part of the county, and the tooth of a mammoth was picked up in the creek-bottom north of Versailles. Parts of the skeletons of nearly a score of those huge creatures have been discovered in as many years.

"The geology of Darke County is pre-eminently that of the drift, but one rock formation being exposed within its entire borders. This formation belongs to the upper series of the Niagara group, known as the Guelph or Cedarville beds. It is supposed to be identical with the Le Claire of Iowa, the Racine of Wisconsin and the Guelph of Canada, from which it takes its name. Although there are but five exposures, there is no doubt but that these beds compose the entire rock surface. It was formerly thought by some members of the survey that the water-line extended into the northern part of the county. This might have been highly probable before the glacial epoch, but, being evidently superficial, must have been removed during that period of erosion.

The Guelph rocks are most extensively laid bare along Greenville Creek and at the quarries of Bierley, Hershey and Roesser, in the southwest quarter of Section 27, Adams Township. They form the bed of the creek here for a quarter-mile or more. The quarries are situated in the bottom of the valley or ravine, and are covered with about two feet of dark red clay or loam, mingled with the decomposed lime-rock and strewn with heaps of large drift bowlders. The banks are twenty to thirty feet in height, and composed of yellow clay and hardpan. The beds of limestone here appear perfectly horizontal, having been deposited (as shown by the character of the rock) in a quiet, shallow sea, and having witnessed little disturbance and no subsequent upheaval. A section of ten or twelve feet can be observed at the quarries, bearing about the same features as the Guelph bed generally, viz., of a light buff color, porous or spongy and fragile. The upper portion, in particular, is so fragile or sandy as to crumble up like chalk, and is composed almost entirely of crinoidal stems. No regular planes of stratification





appear, the rock breaking into thin, irregular slabs. Lower down, this formation is of a darker yellow color, firm, massive, and contains innumerable fine casts of *crinoidea*.

A second exposure of this formation occurs at the quarries of Dr. I. N. Gard, southeast quarter Section 33, Greenville Township. The beds are worked in two places, known as the old and new quarries, and lie about fifty yards apart. In appearance the rock does not differ materially from that at Bierley's, but it is much harder and totally different in fossil contents, two or three species only being common to both. The upper stratum is especially to be noticed as being of a compact crystalline structure, and also considerably folded. Moreover, it shows a perceptible dip toward the south and east. The section is as follows:

	Ft.	In.
Yellow clay and loam.....	0	6
Dark-red clay, very compact, calcareous and interspersed with many limestone pebbles.....	2	0
Thick stratum, with definite fracture, of dark yellow or bluish cast, compact crystalline; few fossils, but well preserved; glacial striae south, 5° west,	2	9
Thick marine, porous, in many places soft and sandy, light buff in color, and containing many fine casts.....	6	0
Total exposure.....	11	3

The beds are again exposed just below the mill at Webster, in the southwest quarter of Section 32, Wayne Township. A section of between four and five feet is revealed on the right bank of the Stillwater, where its waters have worn down to its original bed. The rock here is very nearly identical in character with that in Greenville Township. Its hardness is sufficient for building purposes, but it would be impracticable to attempt a quarry from the massive, irregular character of the limestone. It is easy of access and might be quarried to be manufactured into lime. The creek bank above the rock consists of three or four feet of dark red-colored clay, which is greatly calcareous. Beneath this clay several sulphur springs flow out from the surface of the rock into the creek.

Again, near Weaver's Station, on the southeast quarter of Section 29, Neave Township, a surface of limestone is revealed along the bed of Mud Creek for some one hundred and fifty yards. The rock here differs but slightly from the other exposures noticed. The stone is plainly laminated, breaking out in thin irregular flags; very sandy in texture, and mostly of a buff color, and in patches bearing a close resemblance to red sandstone. Experiments demonstrate that the lighter colored stone produces a fine quality of lime, while the red in color is said to become hard from heating. This may have been the result of imperfect burning. Stones used in the foundation of a mill in the immediate vicinity were taken from the creek, but they are not hard enough for purposes of building. A peculiar feature is the absence not only of fossils but traces of them.

The only other exposure is on the northwest quarter of Section 24, near New Madison, Harrison Township, where a lime-kiln was formerly carried on by C. B. Northrup. A section six to eight feet deep and much worn is visible, showing the same general features elsewhere noted. Prof. Orton gives the Niagara rock a thickness of twenty feet at Hillsboro, Ohio, and of forty-two feet at Springfield, and an estimate of its depth in Darke County would place it between twenty and thirty feet.

Worthless as this limestone is found for building or even flagging, it is valuable for the fine character of the lime it produces. This lime is strong, very white, and unexcelled within the State. Its superiority has been recognized, and it finds a constant demand in markets near and more distant. An analysis of this rock by Dr. Wornley, of the survey, shows it to consist of 50.11 per cent of carbonate of magnesia. This high percentage is attributed by Prof. Orton to the long-continued presence of carbonated water, but at Gard's quarries the rock shows 45.72 percentage of magnesia.





A detailed analysis of a specimen from each of these quarries shows :

	Bierley's quarry.	Gard's quarry.	Northrup's quarry.
Carbonate of lime.....	44.60	51.30	51.70
Carbonate of magnesia.....	50.11	45.72	45.26
Silica, iron and alumina.....	4.60	2.20	2.70
Totals.....	99.31	99.22	99.66

The specific gravity of the first is 2.452, as shown by Prof. Mendenhall. While the supply of material for lime is inexhaustible and kilns will be built at accessible points, and this industry expanded and increased, the surface clay affords good facilities for the manufacture of brick and tile, and a number of manufactories are carried on to advantage in different parts of the county. A summary shows that the rock formations of the county furnish excellent lime, and contain the elements of a soil's renewal, and are a source of a highly valuable industry.

#### CIVIL LIST—OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES.

All government has its origin in the wishes of the people, but only intelligence rendered extended suffrage and republicanism a success. Peopled by the descendants of those who had emancipated themselves from kingly thralldom and intolerant persecution, Ohio early became, and has since continued to be, the central field of conservatism wherein political parties, swaying first to one side, then to the other, in numerical power, have held extreme measures in check, and conduced to State and national welfare. Territorial government in the Northwest Territory was provided for in the ordinance passed by Congress July 13, 1787, and October 21 of the same year, received her first Governor, in the person of Gen. Arthur St. Clair, at Marietta. The Territory was so large and St. Clair became so unpopular that a large party was formed, in 1801, in favor of a State government, and in the following year, Thomas Worthington, at Philadelphia, used his influence, "which, terminating the influence of tyranny" was to "meliorate the circumstances of thousands by freeing them from the domination of a despotic chief." His efforts proved successful, and March 4, a report was made to the House in favor of authorizing a State Convention. The first General Assembly, under the State Constitution, assembled at Chillicothe, March 1, 1803, and formed eight new counties, one of which was Montgomery. In 1816, the seat of State government was removed to Columbus, and speedily measures were brought forward agitating the question of a canal linking the Ohio with Lake Erie, and eventually resulting in the Miami Canal, by which Darke settlers found at Piqua an early market for produce.

In 1836, the Congressional district was composed of Darke, Preble and Butler, and Taylor Webster, of Butler, a Democrat, was elected. In 1838, John B. Weller, Democrat, of Butler, was chosen over John Beers, of Darke County, a Whig. Weller was re-elected in 1840 and 1842 over L. D. Campbell, a Whig, of Butler, but in 1844, F. A. Cunningham, of Eaton, Preble Co., was elected over Campbell. In 1846, the district was composed of Darke, Montgomery, Greene and Preble Counties, when R. C. Schenck, Whig, of Dayton, was elected. Two years later, he was re-elected over J. W. McCorkle, of Dayton. In 1850, the Third District was composed of the same counties, when Hiram Bell, Whig, of Greenville, was elected. In 1852, the district was composed of Darke, Miami, Shelby, Anglaize, Allen and Mercer, when M. H. Nichols, of Lima, Democrat, was successful over Joseph Plunket, Whig, of St. Mary's. In 1854, Nichols withdrew from the Democratic Convention of the district, held at Sidney, and, announcing himself as an independent anti-Nebraska candidate, was elected by a majority of 6,000 over D. G. Dorsey, of Piqua, the nominee of the convention after the withdrawal of Nichols. In 1856, Nichols again ran against Dorsey and won, by a Republican majority of 256. At the next election, William Allen, Democrat, by 78 majority, was chosen over Nichols, and re-elected for the same office in 1860 by 600 majority.



over Hart. In 1862, the district was composed of Darke, Warren, Shelby, Logan and Champaign, and J. T. McKinney, Democrat, of Piqua, was elected over W. H. West, Republican, whose defeat was largely attributable to the draft made at that time by order of Gov. Tod. In 1864, Mr. William Laramore was chosen over McKinney, and was re-elected for 1866-68; then, in 1870, McKinney was successful over W. B. McClung. In 1872, the district was constituted of Darke, Preble, Greene and Montgomery, and L. B. Gunkel, Republican, elected over J. J. Warner, of Greene. In 1874, the election went Democratic, sending John A. McMahon, of Dayton, to Congress over Gunkel. In 1876, McMahon was returned over John Hand, of Dayton. In 1878, the district was composed of Darke, Shelby, Warren, Preble, Auglaize and Mercer, and B. S. Lesser, of Sidney, was elected over Wilson of the same place.

The senatorial district was formerly composed of Darke, Shelby and Miami Counties, and always went Whig or Republican. The new constitution came into force in 1851, and made Darke County a representative district of itself. Previous to 1856, the majorities of the dominant party had averaged about one hundred votes. In 1857, J. L. Winner, Democrat, was elected Senator, and on the expiration of his term was re-elected. Since that time, the county has been increasingly Democratic, and has now about one thousand majority. The qualifications for eligibility to be a Senator are citizenship of the United States, two years' residence in the district whence chosen, thirty years of age, and be known to have paid State and county taxes. The Representative must be twenty-five years of age, a resident of the county, with the other qualifications above given.

As a convenient and instructive record connected with the political and official list of the county, we supply the lists of members of Assembly from 1842, and county officers from the organization of the county to the present time: Members of Assembly—1843, James Bryson; 1844, D. I. Hostetter; 1848, Luther Montfort; 1849, George Ward; 1850, Judge Lennox; 1851, P. V. Banta; 1853, Evan Baker; 1855, J. C. Williamson; 1857-59, J. L. Winner; 1861, L. B. Lott (served two terms); 1865, Scipio Myer; 1867-69, Jacob Baker (two terms); 1871, E. N. Walker; 1873, D. T. D. Styles; 1875-77, Dr. Hostetter (two terms); 1879, Charles Negley and W. Long.

The following is the list of County Commissioners, with time of service: 1817—Archibald Bryson, two years; Abraham Studabaker, three years; Silas Atchison, one year; 1818, Jacob Miller, one year. (We have an incomplete record at this point, and resume with 1823.) 1823—William Cury, one year; Abraham Studabaker, ten years; John McNeill, two years; 1824, Joshua Howell, two years; 1825, Dennis Hart, three years; 1826, James Bryson, four years; Robert Robeson, one year; 1828, David Briggs, one year; 1831, Jacob Harter, three years; 1832, Solomon Riddle, five years; 1833, John Swisher, two years; 1837, Richard Lucas, two years; 1840, Moses Woods, three years, and William B. Ludd, one year; 1841, George Ward, three years; 1842, John McGriff, Jr.; 1843, John Colville, five years; 1844, Henry Lipps, two years; 1845, William Arnold, two years; 1848 (March), John Miller, one year; 1848 (October), Christian Harshey, two years; Adam Baker, who resigned, and Henry Arnold appointed till next election; 1849, Samuel C. Baker, two years, and Isaac Reed, three years; 1851, Daniel Reigle, five years; 1852, David Studabaker, five years; 1853, Abel Stonaker, two years; 1855, S. A. Green, three years; 1856, William Kerr, three years; 1857, Michael Zick, three years; 1858, William Wright, three years; 1859, Riley Gard, three years; 1863, John Stoltz, six years; 1864, George Ivester, six years; 1865, Samuel Alexander, three years; 1868, David Oliver, three years; 1869, Jesse Woods, three years; 1871, James Auld, three years; 1872, J. R. Holland, four years; 1873, Elisha Berry, four years; 1874, John Antonides, one year; 1877, George D. Miller, three years; 1878, William Archard; 1879, Samuel Wilson. Probate Judges—John Wharry, elected in 1851; A. R. Calderwood, 1854; D. H. R. Jobes, 1857; J. C. McKeny, 1866, resigned 1868, and A. F. Bodle was



The first part of the report deals with the work done during the year 1900. It begins with a summary of the work done during the year 1899, and then goes on to describe the work done during the year 1900. The work done during the year 1900 is divided into two main parts: the work done during the first half of the year, and the work done during the second half of the year. The work done during the first half of the year is described in detail, and the work done during the second half of the year is described in detail. The work done during the year 1900 is described in detail, and the work done during the year 1900 is described in detail.

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appointed to serve from April to November of that year; James T. Meeker was elected in October, 1868, to complete the term, then elected in 1869 for three years, and again chosen in 1872; then J. A. Jobes was chosen in 1875, and re-elected in 1878, and is now incumbent of the office. As is observed, the officer holds for three years. The Prosecuting Attorney is biennially elected, his term of office to begin the first Monday of January next after his election. No person is eligible to this office who is not a duly licensed counselor at law, authorized to practice in the State. No Prosecuting Attorney should be a member of the General Assembly of the State, or Mayor of a city, and no county officer should be a candidate for the office. Bond not less than \$1,000 is required, to be approved by the Court of Common Pleas in the Probate Court, which may appoint to fill vacancy. His general duties are to prosecute in the name of the State all complaints, suits and controversies in which the State is a party. In case of conviction, he shall cause execution to issue and faithfully urge collection, which shall be paid to County Treasurer. He shall be the legal adviser of the county officers, shall not enter a *nolle pros.* without leave of the court. He shall prepare and accept the bonds of all county officers. He is held to see that county funds are not misapplied, and in lieu of failure is open to suit by taxpayers. No list is given.

The Clerk of Common Pleas Court is elected triennially; term begins February 9, next after his election. Bond not less than \$10,000 nor more than \$40,000, as determined by County Commissioners, with approved sureties. He shall also be the Clerk of the District Court, and of any superior court held in the county. Auditor or Commissioners may appoint to fill vacancy. Clerk may appoint one or more deputies. His general duties are to indorse and file all papers, to enter all orders, decrees and judgments, to engross proceedings of his court. He may administer oaths, take affidavits and depositions. Reports to the Secretary of State annually all crimes and criminals. Once in four years, he reports number of males over twenty-one years, furnishes poll-books and tally-sheets, is held for security of law reports and other books of law library; is depository of all costs and fees taxed upon writs, and pay over to person entitled. No charge shall be made for certificates made for pensioners of the Government, for any oath administered connected with pensions. Linus Bascom was the first Clerk appointed in Darke County, and held one year. Easton Morris, appointed in June, 1818, served seven years. David Morris served four years and deceased, when L. R. Brownell served pro tem. from August to November of 1829; John Beers served three terms, from 1829 to 1850; David Beers then served a few months, after which J. W. Frizzell was appointed for a term of seven years, but the new constitution, which was adopted in 1852, reduced the term to three years. Samuel Robinson was elected October, 1854; William C. Porterfield, in October, 1860, but deceased before expiration of term, and was succeeded by Henry Miller, who served as Clerk pro tem. until October, 1862, when he was elected and served two terms; Hamilton Slade was elected in 1863; Wesley Gorsuch, in 1873, and John H. Martin filled three months of the unexpired term following Gorsuch's resignation; finally John H. Martin was elected in 1879.

The Sheriff and Coroner are chosen biennially. They give bonds for not less than \$5,000, nor to exceed \$50,000. The general duty of the Sheriff is the preservation of the public peace, attend upon all courts, shall have the power to call to his aid such persons as he shall find necessary. He shall keep a foreign execution docket and a cash-book. The books shall be open to inspection by all persons; the fee for producing the books is 12½ cents, which entitles to a certified copy of entry. On retiring from office, all moneys are paid to the Clerk of the court. In regard to Coroners, it may be said that, on being notified that the body of a person, whose death is supposed to have been caused by violence, has been found within the county, he issues subpoenas for witnesses, administers oaths and takes testimony in writing. He shall draw up his findings in writing, subscribe the same, and, if he find any person or persons inculpated, he shall arrest and take him or





them before a proper officer for examination. At once, after finding a body, if friends or relatives be known, they shall be notified by the Coroner, by letter; if unknown, advertisement shall be made. All articles and moneys found shall be returned to the Probate Court. After one year and due publication, public sale may be made of these articles. The first Sheriff, who was appointed in 1817, served till 1820; his successor was William Scott, who served till 1824; then, Mark T. Mills, till 1828; Joshua Howell, till 1830; John Howell, till 1834; James Craig was appointed, but died, and William Vance served till 1836; David Angel, till 1840; Thomas Vantilburg, 1844, and 1852 till 1856; George Coover, 1848; David Stamm, 1852; Joshua Townsend, till 1860; Hamilton, till 1862; Chauncey Riffe, 1866; A. P. Vandyke, till 1870; N. M. Wilson, till 1875; J. W. Hall, till 1879; and Jerry Runkle is the present official.

The County Auditor holds three years. He may administer oaths, appoint deputies, is Secretary of the County Commissioners; he records their proceedings, files papers deposited in his office, keeps an account current with the Treasurer, issues warrants on the treasury for all moneys payable out of the same, except moneys due the State; may discharge from jail persons confined for fines, when convinced that these fines cannot be paid. He shall make out the tax duplicate; shall keep a book of additions and deductions, in which he shall enter all corrections of the duplicate made after the delivery of the same to the Treasurer. Settlement is made with the Treasurer by the 15th of February and the 10th of August. He shall make return, to the Auditor of State, of the number of domestic animals, state indebtedness of county, report number of sheep killed and amounts paid owners. He is sealer of weights and measures. His compensation varies with the population and extent of services required. The following named have served as Auditors: June 5, 1821, John Devor, appointed; 1822, H. D. Williams; March, 1824, John Craig, elected, died, and June, 1826, John Beers appointed to fill vacancy, elected, and in December, 1829, resigned to accept appointment of Clerk of Court, and January, 1830, David Cole was appointed to fill vacancy; in October, 1832, Hiram Bellows elected, resigned October 5, 1836, and David Angel served until January, 1837, when John McIlthanney took his seat—the latter deceased, and at a special meeting called by the Sheriff, September, 1837, C. C. Craig was appointed, then elected, and served till 1840, when he resigned, and William M. Wilson succeeded; held till October, 1846, when he resigned and John L. Winner was appointed to fill the unexpired term. David Stamm served a term, followed by F. Gram, who died, and A. R. Doty filled vacancy; A. L. Northrop served from October, 1849, to 1852, when George W. Coover was elected; Joseph C. Shepherd chosen in 1854; John E. Matchett, 1857; D. B. Cleves, 1861; E. H. Wright, 1865; O. C. Perry, 1867; John E. Matchett, 1871; W. J. Kelly, 1873; and John C. Turpen, 1879.

The County Treasurer is elected biennially. Bond to the amount required by Commissioners, at the hands of four or more freehold sureties, or the office vacant, and appointment made. Additional bond may be required, if deemed necessary. All payments are made, except on tax duplicate, on the draft of the Auditor, or when moneys are received from the State by the Auditor of State. Duplicate receipts must be given for all moneys paid, except taxes—one to the person paying, the other to the Auditor. Receipt of tax duplicate is made known by legal notice given. The office shall be kept open, for the collection of taxes, from the time of the delivery of the duplicate to him until January 25, and from April 1 to July 20. Taxes may be paid on or before December 20, or one-half before that time and the remainder on or before June 20, but all road taxes shall be paid prior to December 20. After June 20, the penalty is 5 per cent.; after December 20, the overdue taxes may be collected by distress and sale, etc. When the Treasurer is unable to collect by distress, he shall apply to the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, and cause to be served upon the delinquent person or corporation, requiring them to show cause for failure in payment, in default of



which a rule shall be entered, having the force and effect of a judgment. The right to redeem lands sold for tax holds two years from date of sale, by payment to the holder, the amount, expense of deed, with 6 per cent interest and 25 per cent on account of said judgment. When any warrant on the treasury is presented and cannot be paid for want of funds, it shall be indorsed and bear 6 per cent interest from date of indorsement by Treasurer. If the Treasurer, either directly or indirectly, purchases warrants of his county at any discount, he shall, upon settlement, forfeit the whole amount due thereon. Advance payments may be made to local authorities, not exceeding two-thirds of the current collection of taxes of the corporation. In case of embezzlement, the incumbent shall be removed and a new Treasurer appointed. The following have been the Treasurers of Darke County: John Devor, appointed June, 1817, 1818 and 1819; Daniel Briggs, 1821; Linus Bascom, 1822 and 1824; John Beers, 1825; A. Scribner, 1826 and 1827; Loring R. Brownell, elected October, 1831; Henry D. Williams, 1835; James M. Dorscy, 1839; Daniel Irwin, 1839; James Devor, appointed to fill vacancy caused by death of Irwin, May, 1844; Charles Hutchins, 1847; James Irwin, elected 1851 and 1853; William Schmidt, appointed 1854; James McKhann, 1855 and 1857; George H. Martz, 1859 and 1861; Thomas P. Turpen, 1862; Eli Helm, 1866; Peter V. Banta, 1870, two terms; W. R. Kerlin, 1874, and Amos Hahn, 1878.

The County Recorder keeps four sets of records, viz., deeds, mortgages, plats and leases. He shall furnish a fair and accurate copy of any record in his office, and certify the same to any person demanding and tendering the fees therefor. He shall make and keep up suitable indexes. Abraham Scribner was the first Recorder, appointed in 1817; Eastin Morris, 1822; Josiah D. Farrar, Thomas Rush, John Wharry; Elias Brumminager, elected 1844; John S. Shepherd, 1850; S. C. Eddington, 1856; Daniel Stevenson, 1859; A. F. Medford, 1865; Benjamin Beers, 1868; P. H. Maher, 1874, re-elected in 1878, and still in office. Besides these officers, there are the Infirmary Directors, three in number, who hold for three years; a Superintendent of the asylum and a County Surveyor.

For a few years from first settlement, comparatively little interest was taken in politics; people were too much absorbed in the struggle for bread. Later, the district was carried by the Whigs, uniformly, but by moderate majorities only, until after the new constitution came into force, in 1851. An increasing interest was felt in politics as years went by, and both national and local issues were discussed with much warmth, privately and publicly. During the Presidential campaign which resulted in making James Buchanan chief magistrate of the nation, the political pulse of the people rose to a pitch previously unknown in the history of Darke, while, during the whole period of the war, Greenville was one of the most deeply engaged and thoroughly aroused places in this part of Ohio. The local prints did not mince matters, but criminations and recriminations were frequent. The editorial pencils were held firmly, and moved by fervid energy. Italics, small caps and capitals wearied the printer; political writers and speakers dealt in denunciations, threats and charges; the *Democrat* office was pied, and pitched into the street. Later years aroused a more conservative spirit, and a courtesy prevails which speaks well for the intelligence and patriotism of the citizens. The county is fully recognized as Democratic, the strength of which party, compared with the Republican, is illustrated by the vote of 1876 for President: Samuel J. Tilden received 4,667 votes; Rutherford B. Hayes, 3,577; a total of 8,239. In 1877, the vote stood for Governor: William H. West, 2,612; Richard M. Bishop, 3,947. In 1878, for Secretary of State, Milton Barnes, 2,980; David R. Paige, 4,202. The following, respecting population, shows the progress of the county in this regard: In 1820, 3,717; in 1830, 6,204; in 1840, 13,282; in 1850, 20,276; in 1860, 26,009; in 1870, 32,278.

The following illustrates the growth between 1840 and 1850, by townships: Greenville, 1,851 to 3,417; Twin, 1,057 to 1,400; Richland, 589 to 793; Harrison,





1,866 to 1,705: Washington, 898 to 1,250; Van Buren, 421 to 770; German, 1,173 to 1,601; Wayne, 727 to 1,162; Brown, 293 to 684; Butler, 1,116 to 1,446; Monroe, 171 to 913; Jackson, 304 to 566; Adams, 698 to 1,416; Neave, 635 to 883; York, 371 to 497; Franklin, 291 to 451; Mississinewa, 124 to 318; Patterson, attached to Wayne, 319; Allen, 194 to 290; Wabash, attached to York in 1840, in 1850 gave 309. Gibson, with 276, was attached to Mercer County when Auglaize was erected. About one-half of Allen and parts of Patterson and Wabash were given to Mercer at the same time. Add the population of Patterson to Wayne, of which it was formed, and 1,481 shows the population to have doubled. The same is true of York when Wabash is added. All townships but Harrison showed heavy increase compare with 1840. We conclude this chapter by the following from the pen of Hon. James Hanaway, of Kansas, formerly a resident of Butler Township, this county:

#### "THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD IN DARKE COUNTY.

"When African slavery existed as an institution in the Southern States, there was an organization in most of the free States known as 'the underground railroad.' Although the term was very generally used to designate a society which gave aid and assistance to such fugitives as had escaped from their servitude, and were in search of liberty, yet there were but few persons in any community who had any practical knowledge of the workings of this mysterious and humane society. The cabalistic letters 'U. G. R. R.' were generally used when referring to the association. It was first bestowed by slave-owners. Fugitive slaves on their way to the free States were not unfrequently close upon capture when they suddenly disappeared. Once, pursuit was so close that success seemed sure, when trace was lost, and one of the slave-hunters, on his return, gave it as his opinion that the Abolitionists had an 'underground railroad' on which the fugitives were spirited away. From this originated the term, which the Abolitionists adopted as the name of their organization.

"Although there was not a regularly established line of the underground railroad in Darke County, there were persons in different localities who were always ready to render assistance when called on. Fugitives were often taken across the county to another line of road which was in active operation; for example, from Miami or Montgomery County to Newport, Ind. This was necessary, sometimes, to throw the hunters off the track, and was always effective.

"The question was often, and is even now, asked, 'How did the slave know whom to apply to in a strange country for assistance?' In all towns and cities there are always found a large number of free blacks; some of them have bought their freedom; some are fugitives from far-off, distant States, and feel safe in their new homes. This class of persons are shrewd observers of things, and they readily detect a stranger. In this way, thousands became aware of the existence of the underground railroad, and entrusted themselves to its care. Many slaves, before they started on their hazardous undertaking, possessed knowledge sufficient to work their way to a free State. While up in the Red River country, in Louisiana, many years ago, an old house-servant came to me just as I was starting homeward, and in a low voice said: 'Massa, I heard you tell ole Massa that you lived near Cincinnati, Ohio. I have often prayed to my Maker to take me to that blessed place before I die.' This language was strange and unexpected, but I soon found out how he, as well as others like him in the land of bondage, had learned some little about the free States. Slaveholders, in their social meetings, would become quite indignant against the people of the free States, branding them as 'nigger-thieves,' etc., because they sometimes aided a fugitive to find a refuge in Canada. Cincinnati was always spoken of as the headquarters of Abolitionists. These conversations were no uncommon occurrence among slave-owners, and the ignorant bondmen, while listening, would naturally reason: 'Cincinnati





must be filled with good people who are friends to the colored folks, because Massa and the white folks are always cussing it and calling it a den of thieves, who help niggers run away to the British country, where they are forever free.'

"The underground railroad was bold and open in its operations until the passage of the 'fugitive-slave law' of 1850, when it became necessary to adopt a more cautious and less hazardous plan of operations. Instead of men of means placing themselves in front as depot-agents and conductors, as heretofore, they transferred these duties to trusty poor men, off whom the law could not collect the heavy penalties of transgression, and the funds were provided by men of wealth.

"The fugitive-slave law of 1850 was a firebrand cast at freedom by that Senatorial traitor, Mason, of Virginia; but it proved to be a valuable auxiliary to the cause of freedom. My old friend, Dr. Otwell, now living in Greenville, said to me upon the receipt of the news of the passage of the law: 'It will arouse the North, agitation will follow, and it will result in good.'

"Some time since I cut the following paragraph from a newspaper. It is introduced here, because the fugitives mentioned were taken through Darke County, and because it will give the uninitiated a peep behind the curtain:

"Judge Sharkey, at present a petitioner before the Supreme Court, is charged with being the author of an infamous decision, consigning a widow and her children into slavery. The former had been the wife of a Mississippi planter, who had legalized his marriage with her in a Northern State. The children had been educated in Ohio. Returning South, they were seized by relatives of the deceased planter, and on application to Sharkey were doomed to slavery.'

"It is true, the relatives attempted to seize the mother and five children under the decision of Judge Sharkey, but before the officers could secure their human chattels, they made their escape to Cincinnati, and were landed safely in Canada through the agency of the underground railroad.

"Prior to their last visit to Mississippi, they had consulted an eminent lawyer of antislavery proclivities, Salmon P. Chase, of Cincinnati, and he advised them not to risk anything in a Mississippi court. They therefore left what in common law was their property by the decease of the husband and father, and escaped to Cincinnati by steamboat. Although the children had been educated in Ohio, and papers confirming the marriage were on record, it was deemed unsafe to risk the decisions of the courts, so they were assisted on their way north, by those who sympathized with them. In a few days, they arrived in the city of Dayton, and were taken in charge by a well-known agent of the road.

"The same evening, the slave hunters arrived, for they learned the colored family had taken passage on a canal-boat. Fortunately, by the blustering manner of the slave-hunters, the antislavery people of Cincinnati became apprised of their errand, and a courier was at once despatched to Dayton, arriving but a short time in advance of the pursuers, and measures were at once adopted for the protection of the fugitives. They were stowed away in a dark cellar, and at 12 o'clock at night, they were conveyed out of the city in a close carriage, and taken across the country toward Newport, Ind. The person having this valuable freight in charge was ordered to go by way of Ithaca, Castine and New Madison. At Ithaca he took the road leading to Fort Jefferson, which took him several miles out of the way. They reached New Madison about breakfast-time. Dr. Rufus Kilpatrick took charge of them and conveyed them westward to Anderson Spencer. On the following morning, they were forwarded to Newport, Ind., and thus escaped the clutches of those who would make merchandise of their own flesh and blood.

"A few days after these occurrences, the Circuit Court met in Greenville. Judge Holt, Judge Crane, and several lawyers from Dayton, had witnessed the furor which had taken place at the hotel in Dayton, when the slave-hunters found their victims had escaped. They raved and swore, and denounced the people of the North as a pack of negro-thieves. This outburst produced quite a sensation, even



in the proslavery element of the community. The Judges and lawyers were especially severe in their condemnation of such sentiments.

"A fugitive by the name of Wash McQuerry, who resided for a time in the western part of Darke County, took up his residence near Troy, Miami County, believing he would be safe from the pursuit of his old master, one Henry Miller, near Louisville, Ky. It appears that a man named John Russell, living near Piqua, learned that Wash was a fugitive, and ascertaining the name and address of his owner, basely, or, perhaps actuated by a desire for gain, wrote a letter to Henry Miller, informing him where his chattel could be found.

"A posse of slave-hunters visited Miami County, and Wash was arrested while working on a canal-boat. There were other fugitives supposed to be in Miami and Darke Counties. The hunters visited Greenville, and after consultation with a certain law firm, they went in the night to the colored settlement and searched several cabins. I received information from Greenville that the slave-hunters were hunting lost property in the neighborhood. I immediately started with a friend, in a buggy, for the colored settlement, arriving about dark. I found the whole settlement in arms. Every cross-road was guarded by armed men. Being somewhat acquainted, I was allowed to pass without molestation. That night I tarried in the academy, but the news I was so anxious to convey was there ahead of me.

"Wash, the fugitive, was taken to Cincinnati, and, after an able defense by Messrs. Birney & Joliffe, was ordered to be delivered to the claimant. This was the first case under the law of 1850. It was tried before Judge McLean.

"One of the most interesting events during my connection with the underground railroad, was the following:

"Twenty-eight slaves escaped one night from Boone County, Ky. They were delayed in crossing the river, and it was nearly daylight before they arrived in the suburbs of Cincinnati. Carriages were obtained from a certain German in the city to convey them into the country, as it was deemed unsafe for the fugitives to remain in the quarters where they were secreted. After food and suitable clothing had been furnished them, at the suggestion of the late Levi Coffin, they formed procession as if going to a funeral, and moved solemnly along the road to Cumminsville. The route decided on by the agents of the road, was via College Hill, Hamilton, West Elkton, Eaton, Paris, to Newport, Ind. The same night on which these twenty-eight fugitives arrived at Newport, three slave-hunters from Boone County, Ky., stopped over night in the village of Castine. Newport is sixteen miles west of Castine. But from the fact that the fugitives took the longest route from Paris, by mistake, they must have been overtaken. My suspicions had been aroused that these strangers might be in search of lost property. As they were about leaving the village, one of the party recognized an old friend and classmate, in one of the bystanders. They had been classmates in the Ohio Medical College some years before. To this friend he confided his business, but gained no information from him. After their departure, my friend,\* who was a leading Democrat, informed me all about the business of the three strangers—where they were going, etc. They had tracked the fugitives to Eaton, where they lost the trail. From Eaton the hunters came to Castine.

"A few minutes after I received this information from the Doctor, I was on the road to Newport. The hunters arrived ahead of me, had already put up their horses when I arrived, and were walking the streets, asking the price of furniture, garden-seeds, etc., and taking a general inspection of things.

"When I made my mission known to the agents of the road, it created a sensation. One of them said that only ten minutes before, he had seen some of the children of the fugitives at play in a yard near the main street of the village, and might be seen by any one passing along.

"About 1 o'clock P. M., the hunters left Newport, but the friends of the fugitives were fearful that they had gone north to Winchester, for assistance. Before

\* Dr. John E. Matchett, now of Greenville.





evening, however, we found that they had made no discovery. That night the fugitives were taken to Cabin Creek, Randolph Co., Ind., and, after a few weeks, were forwarded to Canada.

"Nine thousand dollars reward was offered for these fugitives; \$1,000 to any one who would put the owners on the trail. One of these male fugitives had been purchased eight months before for \$1,200. Another was a Baptist preacher, a smart fellow, though he did not believe the New Testament a slave code.

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"The rising generation can have but a faint conception of the state of public opinion thirty to forty years ago. The influence which the slave power exercised throughout the United States, was almost irresistible; it controlled every department of government. The leading churches pandered to its power—the Bible became a slave code. Free speech was crushed out, under the plea of protecting public liberty."

#### ROADS—TURNPIKES AND RAILROADS.

The construction of roads and water ways are characteristic of ancient and powerful nations advanced in civilization, and knit together in all their interests by bonds of profitable commerce. Rome made her roads for the expeditious marches of her legions, but America has made hers for the facility of peaceful intercourse, in the interests of commerce, trade and agriculture. It was a discouraging aspect shown by Darke in the earlier day, when trails, traces and tracks were numerous and roads none, and it was true as at the time said, "There is not one beyond the mountains and but few this side, that is acquainted with the hardships of the pioneers. Twenty or thirty years must elapse before they can have a comfortable road to get to mill or to the court house. How many thousands would rejoice if they had the privilege of working out upon the highways a per cent of the proceeds of the common domain, rather than to pay cash for which they receive no benefit whatever." The privilege was in time accorded of working out tax, but it is questionable whether taxes paid and expended under a competent roadmaster would not be a better procedure. At the first settlement of Darke, and for many years after, all State roads were laid out and established by the Legislature by special act. The first State road laid out in the county was the highway from Troy to Greenville. This was the road traveled by the settlers coming into the county in 1811, although the locating may not have been regularly done farther than the boundary line west of Miami County. It crossed Greenville Creek, where the road now crosses near Gettysburg, and this intersected Wayne's old trace from Fort Recovery to Greenville. It came up on the north side of the creek and crossed again north of the Turner Mill, at what was called the Boomer-shire fording. It had, however, been altered during the period of the war of 1812; at that time it crossed the creek at the lower end of Main street, Greenville, about where the Beamsville road now crosses. A short time before 1817, a survey had been made, and a road located from Piqua to Greenville, but the road had not at that time been opened. This intersected the Troy road near the present site of Gettysburg. When there was no established road opened between Piqua and Greenville, settlers made their own road till they struck the Troy road at the Studabaker block-house. At that time there were but two or three families living between Piqua and the point just named. The following named roads had been laid out just after the organization of the county, and their original and present routes do not materially differ: the Milton, Shanesville, Fort Recovery and Fort Jefferson. The roads that were first laid out under the order of the County Commissioners were generally located to suit the people of the different neighborhoods through which they passed; they circled about ponds and marshes, angled and curved their way the nearest and best track from one house to another. As a result, most roads located by first settlers have been changed or entirely vacated. The location of roads was not always according to the unanimous wishes of the settlers, and as an





instance, we give the history of what was known as the "Western or Winchester road," which caused considerable strife and difficulty. The settlers west of Greenville joined in a petition to the Commissioners for a county road from Greenville to the State line in the direction of Winchester. A view was ordered; viewers met, started at or near the mouth of Mud Creek, ran nearly direct until they intersected the old Indian trace leading from the Indian town on Mud Creek to Muncie, Ind. This was at the crossing of the West Branch, from which they ran as close as practicable with the old trace to the State line. This location did not satisfy all parties to the petition, and another party arose. Names were bestowed upon each. The first was known as the Squaw road party, the other the Jersey road. The latter petitioned for a road to run a course about a mile north of the other; their petition was granted. There were now two roads, and each party, emulating the other, set to work to open the respective roads. Not long after, an order was received from the Legislature to lay out and establish a State road from Troy via Greenville to the State line. In the mean time Randolph County, Ind., had laid out a road from Winchester to the State line, ending at the corner of a section about midway between the two Ohio roads. The State viewers learning at Greenville of the two roads and the strife, ran their line midway to strike the Indiana road, and in proportion as the one party rejoiced the other was displeased. The line is now the Greenville and State Line turnpike. Soon the defeated party petitioned at Columbus for change of location: it was granted without delay or investigation, and for a number of years the Squaw road was traveled as the State road. Partially foiled, the Jerseys went to work vigorously to open and put in repair their road. It thus happened that there were two roads running parallel not a mile apart. No bridge had been built over the mouth of Mud Creek, and the only entry or exit from the town was around and across Greenville Creek. For several years this anomalous condition of affairs continued: finally the people undertook of their own accord to build a bridge over the mouth of Mud Creek. Abutments were erected, laid on the sills and it was partially floored with split slabs, but its completion was delayed and it was not made passable for teams. It stood in this condition several years, until the timber became rotten, when, at one of the terms of court, some lawyers strolled out one evening, laid hold and shook it down. The County Commissioners then made an appropriation for the building of a bridge at this place, and a temporary structure was in time erected. The rival roads were maintained a score of years, much to the public disadvantage. As a finality there came an order from the Legislature to lay a State road from the branch of Mad River in Champaign County, via Piqua and Greenville to the State line. This was located on the track of the former road, and the difficulty was thus finally settled.

J. S. Patterson, of Berlin Heights, Huron County, in an article to the *Ohio Farmer*, written in 1870, said: "Who would have thought thirty-seven years ago, when the writer first saw 'old Darke County,' that it would ever stand foremost among the counties of State for its road enterprise. Why the county should have surpassed every other in the State in this regard, I am unable to explain. It may be accounted for on the theory of extremes—the roads were very bad, they are very good. Perhaps the people thrown upon their own resources pushed their way in this direction. It is certain that the pike business became in time a local epidemic. The many rival stations fostered a spirit of rivalry. A condition of things that favored the enterprise of turnpike construction was the tendency of the people to invest in what promised to be a permanent improvement. Whatever may be the explanation, the Secretary's report for 1868 puts down 393 miles of turnpike roads for Darke County; Warren follows with 224; Clermont and Wood 200 each; Hamilton, 195; Montgomery, 152; Champaign, 136; Greene, 117; Butler 112, etc.

Of course, the burden of taxation is heavy and not every farmer is in condition to pay \$4 an acre road tax. Some were obliged to sell off land to enable them to meet assessments, but hard as it was, even such gained in the end by the



rise in local values. It is quite a general feeling among the people that they have taken too much upon their hands at once. And as wheat is their staple product, the county ranking fifth in the State, the low price at which their surplus will probably have to be sold, may operate somewhat discouragingly; but the resources of the county are abundant, and the people will no doubt come out all right, and all the better for their excellent system of roads. Parts of the county with which I was perfectly familiar ten years ago, I did not recognize when passing through them last summer." There are now over 700 miles of turnpike in Darke County, and several short roads are building. The writer of the above was correct in supposing that the outcome of this special enterprise would be favorable even to those most heavily taxed, for so it has proven. Within an area of 600 square miles there are just about 200 piked roads and part of roads, having a separate name. To merely enumerate them would be a task; to state their individual history would require almost a volume. The first one was built from Greenville to Gettysburg in 1853. It was then, and is still a toll pike. All the others are free. The turnpikes of this county are estimated by competent authority to have cost in the aggregate just about \$1,500,000. The lines radiating from Greenville, as seen on the map, resemble somewhat the radiating lines of a spider's web, while the connecting cross roads complete the ideal comparison. Railroads began to exercise their powerful influence in this section about thirty years ago. The pioneer road of this county was known as the Dayton & Union Railroad. The company was chartered Feb. 26, 1846, as the "Greenville & Miami Railroad Company," for the construction of a railroad from the town of Greenville to any point on the Dayton & Western Railroad, or any point on the Miami or Miami Extension Canal, which the Directors might determine. The incorporators were Daniel R. Davis, Hiram Bell, William M. Wilson, Rufus Kilpatrick, John Colville, George Ward, John McClure, Jr., John C. Potter, Erastus Putnam, Alfred Kitchen, James Hanaway, Henry Arnold, W. B. Beall, I. N. Gard, Abraham Scribner, Russell Evans, John C. Shepherd, Adam Baker, Abraham Studabaker, Charles Hutchins, Joseph Ford and Solomon Riddle, of Darke County; Gen. H. Bell was the first President; Henry Arnold, Esq., first Treasurer; and Hon. William M. Wilson, the first Secretary. The capital stock of the company was \$200,000, divided into shares of \$50 each. At the expiration of a year, Dr. I. N. Gard was elected President, succeeded by David Studabaker. During 1848, the enterprise was first fully presented to the people of the county for their support. Among those most active in forwarding the undertaking, not only to obtain a favorable vote, but to secure means to do the necessary preliminary work, were Dr. Gard, Judge Wilson, Gen. Bell, Mr. Studabaker, Mr. Kitchen and Maj. Davis. There was then but little money in the county; the largest subscriptions that could be obtained were \$500, and there were but eight of ten of these.

On January 5, 1848, an act was passed by the Legislature, authorizing the Commissioners of Darke County to purchase stock in the G. & M. R. R. Company to any amount not to exceed \$50,000, provided a majority of the voters of the county were in favor thereof. On the first Monday of April, the proposition to aid was carried by a majority of 637 votes, and on the 13th, the Commissioners subscribed the maximum amount in aid of the road. August 21, the Auditor was authorized to issue an order on the Treasurer for \$110, to pay for the survey of the road. February 2, 1849, the Town Council of Greenville was in like manner impowered to subscribe thereto any amount not exceeding \$10,000. Judge Wilson continued Secretary of the company from organization to about 1850, that is, during the preliminary work of the company. In 1850, a new organization was effected, with E. B. Taylor as President, and an act was passed authorizing the county and town to sell any or all stock to said company, or any other formed to extend the railroad from Greenville to the State line. Mr. Taylor went to New York, negotiated a loan of \$150,000, bought iron and other necessities to equipment. In July, 1850, the first locomotive intended to be used for laying the track





of the road from Dayton to Greenville, arrived at Dayton. It was brought from the establishment of Swinburn, Smith & Co., of Patterson, N. J., and weighed fourteen tons. The first installment of iron was shipped from New York for Dayton on the 26th of June. The residue of the iron was then on the way from Liverpool to New York. It was of the T pattern, and weighed about nineteen pounds to the square foot. The bridge across the Miami River at Dayton was completed and intended for use by three roads, the others being the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton, and the Dayton & Western. The contract for laying the track was let to A. De Graff. The depot and other buildings were placed under contract, and all the work systematically pushed forward. Two additional locomotives, weighing eighteen tons each, were contracted for delivery, one in August, the other in October. Two passenger cars were constructed at Dayton, in the establishment of Thresher, Packard & Co. The "burthen" cars were manufactured at the Greenville foundry and machine-shops of Messrs. Edmonson & Evans, and Taylor Brothers. The grain crop of 1851 was unprecedentedly large, and the road was expected to highly benefit all interests, whether farming, mechanical, mercantile or commercial. It was stated at the time that this event "was an important epoch in Darke County history," and such it has since proved to have been. It enhanced values and facilitated communication. It was noted that "the running time between Greenville and Dayton will be less than *one hour and a half*, and the distance may be performed with perfect safety in less than *one hour*." On February 19, 1851, De Graff started out from Dayton with a train to be used for track laying. The train was platform cars with houses built on them—three for sleeping-rooms, one for dining and one for a kitchen. The job of laying the iron was in charge of John Horrien. On May 25, the main track of the road was finished to the depot buildings, and a meeting was called to arrange for a celebration of the event. The event duly honored, was marked by a large crowd, and made memorable by an *emeute* at Greenville, on part of the roughs. The Board of Directors, at a meeting held at Dayton August 30, 1853, declared a 10 per cent dividend from the earnings of the road, from January 1 to September 1. This dividend was declared after deducting expense of repairs, running, interest and other expenses, and there remained a reserve fund of \$5,000. The receipts for August were for passengers, \$6,261; transportation, \$4,215; mail, \$333; total, nearly \$11,000. The cost of the road was about \$550,000. Outstanding bonds, \$341,000, and the liberal dividend to stockholders created an enthusiasm which greatly facilitated the induction and completion of the road to Union, and of other roads constructed through the county. Mr. Taylor continued to be President of the road until July, 1855, when he resigned. Meantime, the company had been authorized by the Legislature to extend the railroad to the Indiana State line, by such route as the Directors might select, within the county of Darke," and the act had been accepted by resolution of the Board of Directors as an amendment to the charter of the company. The road was built through to Union City three years after its completion to Greenville, that is, in 1853. When President Taylor resigned, the road went into the hands of the bondholders, by whom it was operated. At length, suit was brought for foreclosure of the mortgage August, 1861, but a plan of re-organization and capitalization of stock and debt was agreed upon, and the road was sold October 30, 1862, to H. C. Stimson and S. J. Tilden for \$1,000, subject to the mortgage of \$150,000. In 1855, Judge Wilson, Secretary, resigned, and the chief office was removed to Dayton. All control of the road passed from the citizens of the county that year.

In the summer of 1854, the road was completed from Dodson to Dayton, and the company continued to operate the entire line from Dayton to Union City until April, 1863, when, in accordance with an agreement on January 19, previously, the joint use of the track of the Dayton & Western Railroad Company, from Dayton to Dobson (fifteen miles), was secured, between which points each company had a line of road running nearly parallel. By this agreement, the company was enabled





to take up and dispose of the iron between Dayton and Dobson. January 19, 1863, the company was re-organized, under the name of the Dayton & Union Railroad Company. When the road was opened for business, in 1850, land along its line might have been bought for \$5 per acre; it has since been sold for \$100 per acre. The country was wet, and water stood in the woods and clearings along the track for months at a time. This is now drained, arable and valuable. Then, about Arcanum, houses were to be seen at long intervals; now fine farm houses dot the landscape in all directions. Arrangements are now in progress to relay the old track, and annul the agreement for the joint use of the Dayton & Western rails.

When the road was first opened, a single train—mixed passenger and freight—ran during the day. R. A. Knox was the first conductor on the road. The first engineer was Mr. Johnson. The first freight and passenger agent was Daniel R. Davis, who, on leaving Greenville, took charge of the station at Dayton. The passenger receipts for 1879, on the Dayton & Union Railroad, were \$7,578.85; freight receipts, \$13,165.09; freight forwarded, \$10,882.99. Of officers, James McDaniel is President; C. C. Gale, Superintendent; John L. Miller, General Ticket Agent, and Charles E. Miller, General Freight Agent.

*The Columbus, Piqua & Indiana Railroad*, extending across the county in a direct line from Bradford to Union City, was begun within the limits of Darke County in 1852, and the grading completed, or nearly so, during that and the following year. In 1854, the work ceased, the company being much embarrassed in regard to finances. In 1858, the enterprise was again carried forward, and track laying was begun. The completion of the work of laying the iron was effected about the middle of March, 1859. By the last of April, trains were running regularly from Columbus to Union City, making close connections with trains from the west. R. Walkup was Superintendent; L. Purcell, conductor. Judge Mitchell was President until the road was leased to the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railway Company, and he was succeeded by Mr. Smith. William Wilson and John C. Potter, of Darke County, with others from Miami, Champaign, Madison and Franklin Counties, were the corporators. The capital stock was \$2,000,000. The road, running from Bradford somewhat north of west, crosses Adams Township, the northern part of Greenville, and crosses Jackson to the State Line at Union City. Intermediate stations are Bradford, Horatio, Stelvideo, Pikeville and Woodington.

*The Cincinnati & Mackinaw Railroad* was graded but never completed; its history is quite interesting in this connection. In May, 1853, the subject of building this road began to be agitated. A large meeting was held at Van Wert on the 27th of May. An enthusiastic meeting was held in Greenville on June 25, and a committee of fourteen was appointed to attend a meeting to be held at Van Wert July 9. Meetings were also held at New Castine and other points on the line of the proposed road. Survey commenced early in August, and, later in the month, Moses Hart, Esq., had been duly authorized to take subscriptions to the stock of the road, and books were opened at his store in Greenville. Later still, a meeting of incorporators was held at Greenville, and the project so far gained favor that, by October 19, \$200,000 had been subscribed, and, an election being held, William Gunkle was chosen President, and the Directors were William Gunkle, C. G. Espich, J. L. Winner, I. W. Riley, I. W. Kirk, P. De Puy and R. Thisbee. The final report of the survey gave the distance from Greenville to the State line, on the route proposed, as 111 miles, with but three-fourths of a mile curved line in the whole distance. No grade exceeded twenty-five feet to the mile. The cost of building was less than \$17,500 per mile. The entire line, from the Straits of Mackinaw to Cincinnati, was 500 miles, of which about one-fifth was completed. In 1853, Mr. Taylor became Director, vice Dr. Espich. A year later, the hopes of the company were placed in the prospective grant of land, while pressure in the money market delayed the prosecution of the work. The Directors did not despair, but, from time to time, held meetings to compare notes, view reports of engineer and



general agent, and to determine upon the location of that portion of the line lying between Greenville and Celina—two lines having been run in Darke County—and encouragement was given by a Congressional grant of above a million acres of land to aid in the construction of the northern part of the line. A meeting was held April 21, 1858, at Greenville, to examine bids heretofore received for the work between that city and Celina: distance, thirty-two miles. Alfred Kitchen, of Darke, was appointed to superintend the construction, and J. W. Frizzel was chosen Secretary. On June 2, the Directors held a three-days meeting, in the course of which fifteen miles of road were placed under contract, and the trestle and culvert work of the entire thirty-two miles. Mr. Pomeroy was chosen engineer, vice Col. Frink, resigned. The remaining seventeen miles were resurveyed, with a view of important alterations. In the spring of 1859, negotiations were attempted in Europe for the sale of bonds, without success, and the enterprise was abandoned for want of means, after a large portion of the grading had been done, thus adding in this locality one more to the many failures of the times.

*The Cincinnati, Columbus & Indiana Central Railroad.*—The Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railroad Company operates two lines through Darke County—the old Columbus, Piqua & Indianapolis, and the first division of the Columbus & Indianapolis Central. In 1861, what was called the Richmond & Covington Railroad Company was organized for the purpose of making a road through Bradford, on Columbus, Piqua and Indianapolis Railroad, to Richmond, Ind., to connect with the Indiana Central Railroad. It was built during the years 1862-63, and trains began to run in the fall of the latter year. An advantage in construction of the road was the grand ridges abounding in the best of material for ballasting the road. Money was liberally subscribed to pay for necessary surveys. The estimate for building the road and placing it in running order was placed at \$7,000 per mile. To construct the entire route would cost about \$210,000, and Darke County was asked for \$25,000. A. Price, contractor, began work June 9. In February, 1863, the Greenville Journal, says: "The work upon the Richmond & Covington Railroad is progressing very rapidly. In the hands of such men as E. Baker, the Careys, P. Pomeroy and Tom Waring, there is no such thing as failure." Evan Baker, of Greenville, was President of the road from the time of its organization, until near its completion, when E. B. Smith, of Columbus, was elected President of this road and also of the Columbus, Piqua & Indianapolis Railroad, at which time he perfected a running arrangement with the Indiana Central. The owners of that line subsequently bought the stock of the Richmond & Covington Railroad, got control of the stock of the Indiana Central Railroad, which embraced the entire line. Subsequently, this company purchased the Chicago Air Line, and the name "Cincinnati, Columbus & Indiana Central Railroad," was adopted. This company is now the owner of the road, including the branch from Bradford to Richmond. In January, 1869, the Cincinnati, Columbus & Indiana Central Railway, made a permanent lease of its line to the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railroad, by which it is now being operated. The following is an exhibit of the passenger receipts at the Greenville station, for the year 1879, \$9,188. Total for the year of freight was \$17,923.67; total receipts, \$27,011.67.

An adjunct of the railroad, and a convenience especially to the business man, is the telegraph, which is in use here as elsewhere. About 1870, the Pacific & Atlantic Telegraph Company owned the line on the Dayton & Union road, and the Western Union had charge of the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis line; the latter had its office at the lower depot. Postmaster Stevenson was at that time Manager of the Pacific & Atlantic, although not an operator. The two companies were consolidated, and the up-town office was established. This consolidation was perfected in December, 1873, when Jacob F. Martin was appointed manager of the Western Union, which had absorbed the Pacific & Atlantic line. He continued manager until July 2, 1876. Then L. Smith, of Urbana, Ohio, was appointed







*David Putnam.*

GERMAN TP.



*James M. Smith*  
President of the  
Board of Directors





*Sarah Putman*

GERMAN TP.



Miss Mary Ann Smith

1850

local manager, and held this position until May 20, 1879, at which time John L. Garber took charge, and is still in office. There are two lines on the road from Bradford to Richmond—one wire is exclusively used in the transaction of railroad business, the other transacts both railroad and commercial business. One line in the up-town office is for commercial transactions alone; the other is used for the work of both business and railroad. The Dayton & Union Railroad has only one wire, which is used for both purposes. The line between Dayton and Union commenced working at 3 o'clock, June 28, 1854, and the office was in charge of Mr. Swayne.

#### BANKS AND BANKERS.

A full history of banking in Ohio is not expected, yet, prefatory to the record of these indispensable institutions in Darke County, it will prove of interest to learn of the initiatory steps toward bank organization in the State.

The bank is a help to commerce. Managed with fidelity, its notes are more convenient than specie, and its vaults are more secure than the receptacles of private dwellings. As it facilitates exchange, renders possible great undertakings and accommodates the necessities of business men, it has met a patronage that has repeatedly been used to defraud the people by dishonesty and by excessive circulation.

The State endeavors to protect the people, and her Legislature, from time to time, frames acts regulating the conduct of banking. Several times, prior to the civil war, specie payments had been suspended in Ohio, but the interval from 1861 to 1879 has been a period so protracted that the recent disbursements of gold and silver are a novelty to the generation accustomed to fractional currency, greenbacks and national bank notes.

"Wild-cat" banks were long a feature in the Western country, and bank issues were held at more or less a discount, which increased in geometric proportion as the distance increased from the location of the institution that issued them. Bank-note reporters lay upon the counters, each bill was duly examined, and the fluctuations of value were noted and enforced with each new report.

This was all changed by the war. The exigencies of the times created the national system, still in vogue, by which bonds of the Government, purchased by an association, are deposited with the Treasurer of the United States for security, and 90 per cent of their face value in national currency issued to the bank for circulation. The system has been very popular from the uniform equality in value, freedom from counterfeiting and from their absolute security; yet there are many people who are opposed to the plan, and opinions as to their continuance are conflicting. Whatever may be done, they tided the Government over a critical period and have been of incalculable good to the country.

The earliest bank chartered in Ohio was the Miami Exporting Company, of Cincinnati, the bill for whose incorporation passed the Legislature in April, 1803. The primary object of this association was more with a view of stimulating and aiding business, then languishing, than to do regular banking work, and it was not until 1808 that the first bank devoted to commercial interests was established. It was located at Marietta, and bore the name of the place. At the same session during which this charter was given, Mr. Worthington reported upon a proposition to found a State bank, and, as a result of this legislation, the "Bank of Chillicothe" was subsequently established.

Charters were severally granted to similar institutions till 1816, when a banking law was passed which incorporated twelve new banks, continued existing charters, and made the State, without outlay, a party to the profits and capital thus created and continued. The plan was as follows: "Each new bank was, at the outset, to set apart one share in twenty-five for the State, without payment, and each bank whose charter was renewed was to create for the State stock in the same proportion; each bank, new and old, was yearly to set apart out of its profits





a sum which would make, at the time the charter expired, a sum equal to one-twenty-fifth of the whole stock, which was to belong to the State; and the dividends coming to the State were to be invested and re-invested until one-sixth of the stock was State property." This last provision was made subject to change, if found desirable. The State's interest in her banks continued until 1825, when an amendment changed the stock into a 2 per cent tax upon all dividends up to that date, and 4 per cent upon those made afterward. No further change was made till March, 1831, when the tax was augmented to 5 per cent. In 1839, a law was enacted by which Bank Commissioners were appointed to make regular examinations of the various banks and to report upon their condition. This was unpopular with bankers, and was opposed by some of them, and the result was considerable discussion, both within and without the Legislature. A new system of banking was adopted in 1845, which included the State Bank, its branches and independent banks. It was not until 1853, that Darke County began to realize the benefits accruing from the establishment of a local banking office. Prior to this date, loans were frequently negotiated between persons, amounting, in the aggregate, to considerable sums. Two or three citizens of Greenville, whose names have ever since been locally prominent in financial transactions, were engaged in private brokerage in a limited degree, but, with the development of the country and the growth of the town, there was a growing demand, if not an urgent necessity, for regular accommodations in the interests of trade.

*The Farmers' Bank*, a personal or partnership institution, was organized in October, 1853, by Messrs. J. W. Frizzel and J. L. Winner, with what, at that time, was a very respectable capital of \$30,000. The bank was honored by the popular confidence, and was considered reliable; and the fact that it passed easily and triumphantly through the crucial period culminating in the disasters of 1857 and 1861, proved that the high estimation in which it was held was merited. In May, 1865, the bank was re-organized, by the original proprietors, into a national bank. It may be remarked, at this time, that, previous to going into banking, Mr. Frizzel was clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, had practiced law, and had taught school. He had at one period been the preceptor of a military school, and his partner, Mr. Winner, had for several years, subsequent to 1836, engaged in hotel-keeping, in a building which stood on the present site of the Kipp drug store.

*The Farmers' National Bank*, originating from the Farmers', was organized April 3, 1865, with a capital of \$84,000. Washington A. Weston was its first President, and John L. Winner its first Cashier. The first Directors were W. A. Weston, J. L. Winner, H. W. Emerson, G. W. Studabaker and J. W. Frizzel. The following are the changes that have taken place in its officers: On the 9th of January, 1866, J. Pitsenberger and J. C. McKerney were elected Directors, in place of G. W. Studabaker and J. W. Frizzel; J. L. Winner was Cashier, and T. S. Waring was Teller. On the 29th of May, 1866, Elisha Dawes was appointed Director, in the place of J. C. McKerney, and, January 8, 1867, G. W. Studabaker was chosen to succeed E. Dawes. T. S. Waring was made Assistant Cashier January 10, 1871, and was elected Cashier April 7, 1873, and T. E. Clark, Teller, at the same time. Mr. Waring superseded Mr. Winner as Director. On January 13, 1875, George D. Farrar was appointed to succeed Mr. Clark as Teller. May 11, 1876, J. L. Weston was chosen Director, vice W. A. Weston, deceased, and H. W. Emerson was elected President. On the 8th of January, 1878, C. M. Anderson took position as Director, in place of H. W. Emerson, deceased, and G. W. Studabaker was elected President. January 14, 1879, F. McWhinney and Noah Arnold were chosen Directors, in place of J. Pitsenberger, deceased, and J. L. Weston. This old, well-known and firmly established bank has earned and receives a hearty, heavy support from farmers and business men, and sustains a first-class reputation for sterling business capacity. The office is located at No. 66, near the public square, on Broadway, in Greenville.





*The Exchange Bank* was the next one organized in Greenville, and held a meeting for the purpose of starting a financial institution, on the 11th of January, 1869. Frank McWhinney was the originator and proprietor. J. M. Landsdowne was appointed Cashier, and business begun. April 1, 1873. Mr. McWhinney sold to John L. Winner, who is the present owner. From the opening of the bank, the same building has been occupied—the one which stands on the southeast corner of Broadway and the public square. Previous to entering upon banking, Mr. McWhinney had been a merchant at El Dorado, Ohio. From that place he had gone to Madison, and engaged in merchandising and dealing in grain, while acting, also, as railroad agent.

*The Bank of Greenville* was organized February 22, 1876, by Messrs. Allen & Co., proprietors, with a capital stock of \$200,000, the stockholders being held individually liable. The officers chosen were John Hufnagle, President; Judge William Allen, Vice President, and L. L. Bell, Cashier. The Directors are John Hufnagle, Judge James J. Meeker, John Devor, Esq., and L. L. Bell. This bank always made good all its promises, and issued exchange every day, as called for, through the stringent times of 1877. There have been no changes in the officary. Messrs. Hufnagle, Bell and Meeker are among the largest owners of real estate in Darke County. Mr. Hufnagle had been discounting for about forty years previous to the organization of the Greenville Bank, and L. L. Bell had been a broker and insurance agent for some years. Judge Allen was a practicing attorney, and had been a member of Congress four years. All the officers of the bank are old residents of Greenville, except Mr. Bell, and he has been here twelve years. The bank was first organized for three years, at the expiration of which time the charter was renewed, and has been continued until the present time. The bank building is one of the best in the city, having been built for banking purposes expressly. It stands on the northwest corner of Broadway and Fourth streets.

#### THE PRESS OF DARKE COUNTY.

The publication of newspapers from insignificant beginnings has become a most formidable and powerful agency in forming the people, molding public opinion and exposing wrong-doing. The press has shown constant growth in the number of papers issued, in their character, size and composition. Allied with the telegraph, it has become the myriad-tongued voice of all peoples. It has enlarged the field of thought, imparted intelligence and stimulated enterprise, whether national in the construction of mountain tunnel, isthmus canal and overland railway, or local in the building of turnpikes, the drainage of land and improvement of towns. Preliminary to a brief history of the press of Darke County, a few facts of earlier record will be perused with general interest. The first press, we are told, was but a news bulletin. The first English newspaper was published in 1558, during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and was in *manuscript*.

The first paper printed, was entitled the *Politician Mercurius* or *Political Mercury*, and was started during the reign of Charles I. in 1631, and continued through Cromwell's time. In 1775, there were in the United States 37 papers published. In 1810, the number was 358. In 1840, 2,000, and in 1850, 2,500. The latter increase has kept pace with the progress of events, and the problem of the greatest amount of news within the shortest time, with the minimum cost, seems to have reached a solution. The history of the press of Darke County is not unlike that of a thousand others. Short-lived ventures have sprung up like mushrooms and as suddenly expired. The stanch, well-known journals of the present, edited by experienced journalists, are a moral, educational and political power to which, perhaps unconsciously, the county owes much of its reputation for enterprise and intelligence.

The first paper in the county of Darke, was printed and published by E. Donnellan, and was entitled, the *Western Statesman and Greenville Courier*. The



initial number was issued on June 25, 1832. Its terms in brief, were as follows: "The *Western Statesman and Greenville Courier* is printed weekly on a super-royal sheet. The price is \$3 per year, but may be discharged by payment of \$2 in advance, or \$2.50 within the year." Copies of the pioneer paper are rarities, yet No. 16, Vol. 1, owned by M. L. Hamilton, of Greenville, furnishes an opportunity of making known the contents of a paper of half a century ago. Extracts are made from the *Detroit Journal*, *New Hampshire Gazette*, *National Intelligencer* and the *Boston Patriot*. The war with the Sacs and Foxes, led by Black Hawk, was near its close. An overwhelming force under Gen. Dodge, following the Indians, gave them no rest, and dead bodies found on the trail were emaciated by starvation. Cures for cholera are given. A. Stober, tailor, advertises his place of business one door south of the jail, and John Briggs desires payment on the principle, "frequent settlements make lasting friendships," and such as do not respond are threatened with the law. Announcements as candidates for the offices of Auditor, Assessor, Representative and Clerk, were made by Hiram Bell, Esq., Col. M. J. Purviance, M. P. Baskersville and Dennis Hart, respectively. William Brady calls attention to blacksmithing, John Curtis is silversmith and jeweler, and H. Bell is real-estate agent.

The *Greenville Journal* may be regarded as a continuation of the paper above noted, later changed in name to *Journal*, since which time it has enjoyed an uninterrupted publication, although changing owners and publishers many times during the first twenty years of its existence. The paper began to be published on April 19, 1850, under the management of E. B. Taylor and J. G. Reese. The proprietors advocated Whig principles, and had for their motto: "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable." The strength of political parties in the county at this time is shown by the result of the fall elections of 1849 and 1850. In the former year, the Whig vote for Representative was 1,670, while the vote of the Loco-focos was 1,519. Both parties did not come out in full strength in 1850, but the Whigs were the dominant party in the county by a small majority. On June 1, 1851, partnership was dissolved and Mr. Taylor for the time retired, having been connected with the paper under other names for seven years, and beginning with a list of 150 subscribers in 1844. M. B. Reese became a partner April 29, 1852, and the *Journal* was edited and published by J. G. & M. B. Reese. Much space was taken by the publication of laws of Ohio in many numbers. In politics, the Whigs were stated to be "willing to stand by the compromise measure, but no steps further." Unwilling to keep up the agitation about slavery, the fugitive-slave law was obeyed but disliked as unjust. The North did not want an influx of negroes, and acquiesced in the act, while its moral influence South was immense. July 1, 1853, the *Journal* changed its name temporarily to *The Mad Anthony*, with frontier scene for heading, and taking as its motto, "Devoted to the propagation of truth and the elevation of the masses."

In the early part of 1860, the *Journal* was purchased from E. B. Taylor, to whom it had passed from the hands of Messrs. Reese, by Messrs. E. W. Otwell and James M. Craig, who took possession of the same on the 14th day of March, 1860, and published it under the firm name of E. W. Otwell & Co. When these gentlemen acquired the paper, they found a meager list of subscribers: its circulation of *bona fide* subscribers did not exceed one hundred and fifty. It was then a seven-column folio. Under the new management numerous subscriptions were received, rapidly extending its influence, and the columns became much more readable and the paper increased in value as a family newspaper. The Presidential campaign which resulted in the election of Abraham Lincoln occurred in the summer and fall of 1860. In this political contest, which resulted in the triumph of the Republican party, the *Journal* was a staunch party organ, and has always stood firm and unshaken in its advocacy of the principles of its party. In April, 1861, when the war of the rebellion was commenced, and during the few years following, the times were trying for the existence of the paper. In due time,





however, it weathered the storms incident to the times, and gained, as the years succeeded, in favor among the people of the county.

On the 14th of December, 1869, the *Journal* again experienced a change in ownership, by the sale by Mr. Craig of his interest to E. W. Otwell, his partner, who then became the sole owner, publisher and editor, which he has continued to be from that time to the present.

On the 8th day of August, 1873, the *Journal* was enlarged to a nine-column folio, making it, at that time, the largest paper published in the county. In this shape and size it remained until 1879, when, on August 28, it was enlarged to the proportions of a seven-column quarto, making it again the largest newspaper then published in the county, and containing the greatest quantity of reading matter. On the 1st of September, 1879, E. W. Otwell entered the law office of Judge William Allen, and turned over the publication of the *Journal* to his son Curt Otwell. In April, 1880, the paper is prosperous, influential, and has a circulation of 1,176, with prospects of a steady increase in the number of its readers.

The *Democratic Herald* was started at Greenville, Ohio, in April, 1847. Previous to this date, the Democratic party in Darke had been without a home paper, the best and only paper in the interest of the party having been published about 1830, by C. B. Floyd, now of Columbus, and known widely as the veteran editor of the State. The *Herald* was published by Messrs. Mehaffey & Adams, and took for its motto, "The sovereignty of the people, the rights of the States, and a light and simple government." Its name and motto indicate its principles. James Mehaffey had expected before the end of the first year to become sole proprietor, and to renew the publication in the second volume as the *Union Democrat*, "augmented in reading matter and sound in politics;" but the project failed, and instead he sold his interest to William Allen, Esq., who, in connection with Thomas Adams, conducted the paper as the *Greenville Telegraph*. Allen was then acting as Prosecuting Attorney. Both men were high in popular estimation, persons of integrity and sound Democrats. They asked a fair chance, declaring that they "will condemn no man because he honestly possesses political principles differing from theirs." In June, 1851, Adams sold his interest, and was succeeded by Dr. J. L. Sorber, who conducted the paper until the fall of 1852, when Rufus Putnam became the proprietor. The paper rapidly changed ownership and name, being by Putnam entitled the *Mad Anthony*, under which title it was issued until the summer of 1854. With the Know-Nothing excitement, young Putnam removed the press to Union City, Ind., where he started a paper in the interest of the American party, as it was called, in the fall of the same year.

In the fall of 1854, leading Democrats of the county raised a small sum by subscription, and Messrs. William Allen and Thomas Perry went to Cincinnati, and having purchased new press and metal, Mr. Perry was made the publisher of what was entitled the *Greenville Eagle*. But he suffered so many indignities at the hands of Know-Nothings, that at the end of six months he left in disgust, and the office was closed for a number of months. In the spring of 1855, A. G. Clark came from Hamilton to Greenville, and commenced the publication of the *Darke County Democrat*. At the end of a year or more, in July, 1856, Mr. Clark was superseded by Henry Miller, and the office was located over Messrs. Weston & Ullery's hardware store, on the corner of Broadway and Third street. Mr. Miller took for his motto: "Truth crushed to earth will rise again; the eternal years of God are hers;" and continued steadily to edit and publish the paper until March 20, 1861, when his connection ceased and his place was taken by Messrs. J. B. Price and George D. Farrar. Mr. Miller had been appointed Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, in the place of Dr. W. C. Porterfield, deceased. The county which had been Whig till 1857, changed over during that year, and the Democracy succeeded in electing their entire county ticket, as they have done ever since. It was due to Mr. Miller that under him the *Democrat* was established on a permanent basis. Price conducted the publication until the





winter of 1863-64, when a number of soldiers at home on furlough sacked the office and threw the metal into the street. Subsequently other parties procured an interest in what was left of the concern, and removed the office from the Weston building to Mechanics' building, where the paper was once more published. In a short time the paper was again sold to Messrs. McKay & Kinder, who continued the publication until their interest was purchased by Charles Roland, who removed to Greenville from Lancaster in 1866. Mr. Roland became proprietor and editor, and has continued to publish the paper to this date, and is in receipt of good success and hearty support—the appreciation paid by the public to acknowledged merit.

The Greenville *Sunday Courier* was started May 22, 1875, by George W. Calderwood, and December 10, 1876, A. R. Calderwood assumed editorial control and the paper was published by the firm of Calderwood & Studabaker. The office is in the third story of the Hart & Wilson New Block, on the corner of Third street and Broadway. It advocates Republican doctrines and has a growing circulation. Its prospectus opened with the following: "The *Sunday Courier* lives a life of happiness and so will its readers. Consumptive men, on the verge of the grave, have recovered and are live and active men because they read it. Poverty-cursed individuals, almost at the door of the almshouse, have picked it up and saved themselves a life of wretchedness and woe. Statesmen have been brought from obscurity and elevated to position from casual glances over its columns."

The *American Prohibitionist* was published for a time by George Calderwood, and, after a few months, was removed to Columbus. Its brief career in Greenville was promising. It waged an uncompromising war on saloons and gained rapidly in circulation. It was published at the office of the *Daily Gazette*, started in 1879 by the same publisher, Mr. Calderwood.

It is surprising how transitory is the existence of a newspaper; it is the creation and has the existence of a day. There are no complete files of Darke County papers to be found, and their value is not realized till the time to use them is at hand. The present publishers of Darke County are men of experience, prominence and means; they are all persons of sterling principles, and few counties can boast of more energetic workers.

#### EDUCATIONAL—PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

In the early history of Darke County the schools were mainly supported by the individual contributions of the parents sending their children. The wages of teachers were low, averaging from \$9 to \$12 per month. The public fund received by each township was derived from Section 16, which was spoken of as the "school section." It was finally sold, the purchase money paid to the State Treasurer, and the interest on the same is still divided among the several school districts in the townships. The educational interests of the county have always received that attention from the people that their importance seemed to demand. Often, when the farmer had done his day's work, he would attend the evening school, organized by private enterprise, and not only become a student himself, but by his presence and influence encourage the children and youth to renewed diligence in acquiring even a limited education. Among the early teachers of the county we will mention Rev. Mr. Swallow, who preached in different localities, and at the same time taught grammar schools wherever he could collect a class. But grammar was a step in advance of the requirements of the teacher of the day school, who was only required to teach reading, writing, and arithmetic to the "single rule of three." We can certainly notice a contrast between the requirements of the teacher then and now. Henry D. Williams taught in 1830 and 1833, and afterward became County Treasurer. Dow Roll, Mrs. McIntyre, John Townsend and Noah Arnold were among the pioneer teachers of the county, and did efficient work in the schoolroom. Schools were held about three months, and were supported by the income of Section 16, fines and individual contributions, until the



present financial school-law went into operation. But fines only yielded a small sum, the proceeds of Section 16 were small, when apportioned among the several schools of the township; money was scarce and difficult to obtain, either by labor or produce, for there was but little demand for either, and had it not been for the low wages of teaching, schools could not have been continued for three months. The first schoolhouses in the county were rude structures, built of round logs, covered by clapboards, held in their places by poles laid upon them. The writing desks were generally slabs, laid upon pins driven in holes bored in the wall, while the seats were rude benches made of slabs, with two holes bored in each end, into which the legs were driven. The floors were also made of puncheon, dressed on one side, and the writer remembers that the second house in which he taught had only a part of the floor thus made, while the other part was the ground leveled off to correspond with the puncheons, and ground-squirrels and rats would frequently come out of their holes, during school hours, and run across the floor, to the no small amusement of the pupils.

In many of the schools, pupils were required to study in a loud tone, and hence called a loud school, the object being to let the teacher know they were engaged upon their lessons, and not in mischief. Classes in arithmetic and writing were never formed, but each pupil "ciphered away at will," and received personal assistance from the teacher when the same was needed. Writing was taught by the teacher "setting the copy," and the pupil trying to imitate the same. The "quill pen" was used by the pupil, and the "master" was expected to make the pen, and mend the same when the pupil thought it unfit for use. The custom of "barring out" the teacher, and compelling him to "treat," about the holidays, was indulged in by the pupils as a general custom, and sanctioned by the parents; but this relic of barbarism has almost entirely disappeared from our schools. Until the present school law went into operation, there were two County School Examiners, who examined applicants for certificates to teach school, at any time they were called upon, the fee being fifty cents, and the grade of qualification necessarily low, compared with the qualifications during the past twenty years. Among the early Examiners, we may mention John Beers, Dr. J. Briggs, C. F. Dempsey, J. R. Knox and A. L. Northrop; the latter also taught school in 1844, and claims that he first taught mental arithmetic in the schools under his charge. He afterward became County Auditor, and has ever been a warm friend of education, and a firm supporter of our common-school system. John Beers, John Wharve, J. R. Knox and William Allen were, respectively, members of the Board of Examiners until the year 1856, when C. G. Matchett, E. B. Putnam and G. H. Martz constituted the board. This board required mental arithmetic to be taught, and made it a grade of qualification for the teacher. Many applicants for certificates were rejected for incompetency; the standard of teaching was raised, and the schools necessarily took a higher standing in education and usefulness. A vacancy occurred in the board, by the death of E. B. Putnam, and A. T. Bodle was appointed a member of the same. At the breaking-out of the rebellion, C. G. Matchett raised a company of the Fortieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, served with honor and distinction during the war, and, at its close, located, as a lawyer, in Greenville, Ohio, filled the office of Prosecuting Attorney with fidelity, and is now a prominent member of the Greenville bar. G. H. Martz followed teaching for a number of years, served four years as Treasurer of Darke County, and is now serving his third term as County School Superintendent of Greenwood County, Kan. A. T. Bodle followed the profession of teaching for a number of years, and is now a prominent member of the Greenville bar. The first meeting of teachers was held about the year 1856, the object being the mutual exchange of views relative to the duties and responsibilities of teachers. In 1859, A. T. Bodle, L. S. B. Otwell and J. T. Martz, being then School Examiners, in connection with other teachers organized the Darke County Teachers' Association, which was kept alive for some time; and, after the enactment of the law creating a teachers





institute fund was passed, the association was re-organized, and has been kept in existence from that time to the present. J. T. Martz has been President of this association for a number of years, and, previous to March, 1879, was member of the Board of School Examiners for more than twenty successive years. He has taught a number of normal schools for teachers, in different parts of the county. With Prof. Lang, of Gambier, Ohio, A. J. Rickoff, Superintendent of the public schools of Cleveland, Ohio, and Rev. A. L. McKinney, of Troy, Ohio, he held the first teachers' institute in the county. He has been one of the instructors of the Darke County Teachers' Institute for a number of years, and has just completed his ninth successive year as Superintendent of the Greenville Union School. The last teachers' institute enrolled 150 members, and was one of the most successful held in the county. Hon. T. W. Harvey, John Hancock, Rev. J. F. Reimund, and other distinguished educators of the State, have been teachers and lecturers at our institutes, and they have taken front rank with like institutes in the State.

Education in the county seems to be progressive. The public schools are generally well attended, and there seems to be a desire on the part of both teacher and pupil to make all possible progress in the acquisition of knowledge. Teachers make themselves acquainted with the modern methods of teaching, and adopt the same when preferred. Graded schools have been established at the following places, and under the control of the following Superintendents: At Bradford, D. S. Myers; at Gettysburg, Rev. C. W. Shoate; at Versailles, J. E. Polly; at Dallas, J. S. Royer, who is also a member of the Board of Examiners at Union City, Ohio side. B. F. Landis is Superintendent at New Madison; Thomas Eubank, who is also a member of the Board of Examiners, at Arcanum. A goodly showing this, of nine graded schools in the county, together with 200 schoolhouses, requiring 250 teachers. It will be well in this connection to review somewhat the history of education in the State in order to understand how it has been possible to reach the present system of education in the county of Darke.

Ohio, educationally, has been a favored state. When, nearly a century ago, the Confederate Congress passed an act for the survey of Western lands, one section of each township was reserved "for the maintenance of public schools within said township." In the act for governing the Northwest Territory, passed July 13, 1787, it was provided: "Religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged." Later, one-thirty-sixth of the entire land of the State was given to the State in trust for the support of schools. The State constitution of 1802 provided: "Religion, morality and knowledge being essentially necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged by legislative provision, not inconsistent with the rights of conscience." Despite these provisions for education, the schools of Darke, as intimated in earlier chapters, were for many years of little moment. The law of 1821 left it to the vote of each township whether school districts should be formed. Four years later, action in this regard was changed, and Township Trustees were required to divide the township into districts. A tax for schools was levied by the county and provided a fund of about \$10 for one ordinary country district.

In 1838, the first efficient law was adopted by the General Assembly. It provided that School Directors "may determine the studies to be pursued in each school, so that reading, writing and arithmetic may be taught in the English language." In 1849, teachers, in addition to examination in spelling, reading, writing and arithmetic, were required to show qualifications in geography and grammar. The present cost, condition and value of Darke County schools may be ascertained by a consideration of the following statistics for the year 1879:

The balance of school money on hand September 1, 1877, was \$71,982.88; the State tax gave \$19,899, the irreducible school fund added \$4,553.69; the





Local tax for school and schoolhouse purposes gave \$68,333.56: the amount received on sale of bonds was \$940: from other sources, \$1,611.49—thus making the total receipts \$167,320.62. The following were the disbursements during the same year: The amount paid teachers was—primary, \$58,276.99; high school, \$6,095—total \$64,371.99; managing and superintending, \$675; sites and buildings, \$10,892.79; bond interest, \$8,205.66; fuel and other expenses, \$18,925.53: a total expenditure of \$103,070.97—leaving a balance, September 1, 1878, of \$64,249.65. The State received, during the fiscal year ending November 15, 1878, from the county, of common-school fund, \$18,586.15, and paid to the county \$19,899, or an excess of \$1,312.86. The number of youths between six and twenty-one was 13,175. The Section 16 school fund amounted to \$5,135.92.

Darke has 20 townships, 177 subdivisions, 9 separate districts and 9 subdivisions, included in separate districts. During the year, 5 primary schoolhouses were erected in the townships, at a cost of \$5,000. The value of school property is about \$200,000 in townships and \$130,000 in separate districts, or a total of about \$330,000. There were 230 schoolrooms, requiring 231 teachers. There were employed, within the year, 186 gentlemen and 71 ladies, in primary schools: 22 gentlemen and 24 ladies, in separate districts, or a total of 303 teachers. The number of teachers who taught the entire time the schools were in session were 154. The average wages of gentlemen, in primary township schools, was \$38: ladies, \$26. In separate districts—primary, \$49; ladies, \$32; high, gentlemen, \$61. The average number of weeks' schools were in session, was 28, 31 and 33. The local tax of townships, 1878-79, was 3.4; separate districts, 7. The number of pupils enrolled within the year was: of boys, 4,973; girls, 4,161—total, 9,124: in primary, in townships: separate districts—primary, boys, 1,050; girls, 958; high, boys, 201; girls, 197—total, 2,406; grand total, 11,530. The average daily attendance was 6,918, the per cent, in townships, being 76, and in separate districts, 82.

The number in each branch of study is thus given: Alphabet, 1,767; reading, 8,988; spelling, 9,832; writing, 7,826; arithmetic, 6,775; geography, 2,750; grammar, 1,830; oral lessons, 2,271; composition, 1,054; drawing, 436; vocal music, 1,395; map drawing, 373; history, 283; physiology, 28; physical geography, 13; natural philosophy, 23, and German, 145; algebra, 336; geometry, 26; trigonometry, 11; surveying, 2; chemistry, 11; geology, 11; botany, 10; astronomy, 1; book-keeping, 22.

The School Examiners of Darke, in 1879, were E. B. Leitz, J. T. Martz and E. Lockett, the last named resident of Gettysburg. Eighteen meetings were held for examination of teachers; 368 gentlemen made application for license and 187 ladies—total, 555; of these 205 were rejected. Fourteen persons, all gentlemen, received license for two years; 46 for eighteen months; 226 for a year, the remainder for six months; entire number licensed, 350; 37 per cent were rejected. The institute, held at Greenville, commenced August 19, 1878, was in session eleven days, and 160 persons were in attendance.

Thus briefly we learn of the large sums annually paid for education, the full supply of teachers, the fair wages and the increasing exactions of the people for better qualifications. The institute, the high schools and the common schools provide means for acquiring that knowledge so indispensable to the control and instruction of the young. The schools are by no means perfect, but they are progressive, and, as compared with the past, have shown surprising advance.

#### SOCIETIES.

The local historian nowhere finds a more interesting field for research, or one more fruitful, than that which embraces the experience of the pioneers of Darke—the men who literally hewed out the county from the sturdy and unbroken forest, wherein the ax of the woodman had never before resounded; who conquered a scanty subsistence from the unused soil which the plowshares of civilization



had never disturbed; who not only were hindered by these primitive and inert conditions, but positively opposed by the rigors of the climate, the malarial influences of the atmosphere, and the depredations of wild animals; whose crops were even preyed upon by the birds of the forest and the smaller predatory animals. But "peace hath her victories," and adversity and savagery combined withstood not the constant onward march of the vanguard of the grand army of civilization, whose pioneers, discharging their daily routine of duty, unwittingly recorded their deeds in history.

Desirous of the benefits of association, the following-named pioneers met in Hart's Grove, July 4, 1870, and there organized the first pioneer association of Darke County, viz.: Henry Arnold, Aaron Hiller, Israel Cox, John S. Hiller, David Studabaker, John Wharry, Josiah D. Elston, James Cloyd, John Martin, Robert Martin, Henry W. Emerson, John Stahl and William F. Bishop, in all thirteen. On motion, James Cloyd was elected President; John S. Hiller, Vice President; Henry W. Emerson, Second Vice President; John Wharry, Secretary, and H. Arnold, Treasurer. The following was the preamble to the constitution and by-laws: "We, the undersigned, citizens of Darke County, Ohio, believing it commendable to collect and preserve all the incidents and reminiscences as connected with the early settlement of our county, and to preserve them, that those who follow us will, in some degree, be made acquainted with the manners, customs, difficulties, hardships and trials incident to the settlement of a wilderness county, do establish this our constitution, etc." Again, in a year and a day, the pioneers met at the same place. There was singing by Greenville people, prayer by Rev. Levi Purviance, music by Arcanum Band, address by Hon. G. V. Dorsey, of Piqua, on "Pioneers and Pioneer History," and other music by band and choir, when "there was served just such a dinner as pioneers are capable of getting: an overwhelming abundance of the best the land affords, prepared with a culinary skill and neatness peculiar to our pioneer mothers." In the afternoon, G. B. Holt and others gave voluntary addresses, then with due and appropriate ceremonies, the remains of the two Wilson girls, who had been slain by the Indians, were disinterred, buried in the Greenville Cemetery, and a suitable monument erected to commemorate them. The semi-annual meeting was held at the court house in Greenville, January 1, 1872. An address was delivered by Dr. I. N. Gard, and it abounded in historical allusions to events in the early day. It is a subject of deep regret that the addresses delivered before the association had not been written and the papers filed with the Secretary, as the subject matter, however interesting, was lost in its utterance so far as there was any benefit to posterity. A dinner was concluded by a dessert of corn-bread and milk. In the afternoon there was an "experience meeting," greatly enjoyed. Israel Cox presented the society with a cabin door made in 1816, of clapboards pinned together by wooden pins and hung on wooden hinges. The annual meeting was held at the fair grounds. The death of James Cloyd was formally announced, suitable resolutions were passed, the constitution was amended, and H. K. McConnell chosen Corresponding Secretary. This gentleman then delivered an address on "The Early History of the County," followed by H. W. Emerson, Dr. Gard, J. S. Hiller and others, when the roll was signed by quite a number of persons. On July 4, 1873, the association met at Morning-Star Grove, Greenville. President Hiller in the chair; William Allen read the Declaration of Independence, when rain threatened and the meeting was adjourned to the court house, where addresses were delivered by Abner Haines, of Eaton, G. D. Hendricks and others. Again, January 1, 1874, the association met at Greenville and listened to a well-prepared, interesting address upon "The growth of the country, its resources, and future possibilities." A vote of thanks was tendered the Judge therefor. Aaron Hiller was chosen Secretary, vice Wharry resigned. A Bible presented by Mrs. J. W. Frizzell was placed in the care of the Corresponding Secretary. The constitution was amended to admit pioneer women as members, and true to the gallantry of "ye





ten times," the membership fee was remitted. At a semi-annual session, New Year's Day, 1874, the constitution was amended to require five in place of three Presidents, whereupon William Arnold and Lemuel Rush were unanimously chosen. Death was busy before the assembly on July 4, 1874, and H. Arnold, Mrs. Jane Arnold and Mrs. Nancy Gilbert were appointed a committee to draft and report suitable resolutions of condolence on the death of Mrs. Delilah A. Harper. The record at this point contains the following

## ROLL OF PIONEERS.

Henry Arnold,	Allen La Mott,	John G. Horner,	Rebecca Harter,
Aaron Hiller,	Mary Ann La Mott,	Daniel Drill,	William S. Turpen,
Israel Cox,	John Ketring,	John Mark,	T. P. Turpen,
John S. Hiller,	Jane Hart,	Noah Arnold,	Michael Ritenour,
David Studabaker,	Sarah Jane Scribner,	Mrs. Sarah Hall,	Catharine Ritenour,
John Wharry,	J. W. Frizzell,	William Lecklider,	Christopher Briney,
Joshua D. Elston,	Adam Beam,	Reynolds Morton,	Mrs. Rebecca Ross,
James Cloyd,	G. W. Beam,	S. T. Mendenhall,	Tabitha Oliver,
Robert Martin,	Dilman Mote,	J. W. Hall,	Eleanor Bechtolt,
John Martin,	C. M. Sharp,	John V. Hiller,	Lewis Wintermote,
Samuel Hine,	David Craig,	H. R. Calderwood,	J. R. Calderwood,
Joseph Cole, Jr.,	Asa Rush,	Ezra Lecklider,	Catharine Funk,
J. G. Gilbert,	Lemuel Rush,	G. W. Earhart,	Mrs. E. A. Funk,
John King,	S. H. Robison,	Mary Lynch,	Sarah Culbertson,
Harry House,	Dr. E. Lynch,	Gideon Martin,	Alanson Brown,
Henry Tillman,	James Garver,	O. C. Perry,	Cyrus Boyer,
John R. Knox,	Geo. C. Lecklider,	T. F. Chenoweth,	Turnice Denice,
Chas. G. Matchett,	Judson Jaqua,	T. H. McCune,	Hannah Hunter,
John M. McNeil,	Mrs. Jaqua,	John Westfall,	D. D. Hunter,
Lacy L. Ladd,	Franklin Scribner,	William Allen,	Wesley Jay,
Jane Rush,	David Riffle,	Asa Brady,	Laurinda Jay,
Samuel Bechtolt,	Mrs. Mary Riffle,	George Arnold,	H. J. Sturzley,
A. T. Bodle,	Mrs. Robert Martin,	John C. Arnold,	John L. Winner,
Mrs. C. M. H. Bodle,	Mrs. Dilman Mote,	Dennis Hart,	Harrod Mills,
James R. Brandon,	David Harter,	Peter Weaver,	Louisa S. Mills,
S. C. Baker,	Wm. Scott Piqua,	Elias Ross,	Louis B. Lott,
Hannah Baker,	Robert S. Ross,	Isaac Funk,	David P. Judy,
Nancy Gilbert,	Jane Wintermote,	H. C. Kerr,	Catharine B. Mark,
Samuel Hahn,	Lewis Byram,	Lucinda M. Young,	Joseph Bryson,
Martha Larrimore,	J. M. Brady,	David Brown,	John Bruce,
Geo. D. Miller,	A. L. Wortley,	Joseph Phillips,	Nancy Starn,
Elizabeth Miller,	Wash. G. McGee,	Mary Jane Craig,	William Martin,
W. H. Morningstar,	John L. Johns,	Lydia Brown,	Charles Calkins,
H. W. Emerson,	John Hagerman,	David F. Harter,	Jane Studabaker,
John Stahl,	John McClure,	T. H. Hamer,	George Arnold,
William F. Bishop,	Rebecca McClure,	Philip Albright,	Mary Arnold,
William Arnold,	Morris Bryson,	Henry Snell,	William Parent,
W. S. Harper,	Mary A. C. Bryson,	Mary Snell,	Hannah Parent,
Delilah A. Harper,	Mrs. Ellen Miller, 2d,	Aaron Fleming,	Phoebe Brady,
Margaret B. Pixler,	Mrs. Sarah Stokely,	Rachel Fleming,	James Marquith,
Dr. I. N. Gard,	Thomas Stokely,	Aaron Clawson,	W. H. Matchett,
H. Zimmerman,	William R. Young,	Rachel Clawson,	Jason Downing,
J. T. Hamilton,	Jane House,	Elizabeth Fisher,	Daniel Reigel,
Edos C. Shade,	Maria Bishop,	Sarah Scribner,	Lydia A. Reigel,
I. H. McCune,	Rubamer Craig,	R. M. Brown,	Mahlon Martin,
John Stephenson,	Phoebe Hamilton,	Jeremiah John,	Philip Froebe,
Ezra S. Stephenson,	Alice House,	Christena Chenoweth,	Elizabeth Froebe,
Tracy House,	Maria Lecklider,	Josiah Harter,	Jesse Woods -211.

On January 1, 1875, the association met in the jury-rooms of the new court house. President in the chair. Meeting was opened with prayer by L. B. Lott. The roll was completed as just given. Mr. Lott was elected Assistant Secretary. D. D. Hunter, N. Arnold and David Craig, appointed as a committee to secure a speaker, recommended the Hon. William Allen, of Greenville.





In consequence of recent rains, the place of the next meeting, on July 5, 1875, was changed from the new fair grounds to the court house, Vice President Emerson in the chair. The thanks of the association were tendered the Hon. Allen for his anniversary address.

It was ascertained that Jane Hart, Lemuel Rush, Aaron Hiller and Lewis Byram had resided in the county sixty years; and H. W. Emerson, J. M. Brady, David Craig, Mrs. House, R. L. Ross, Peter Weaver, George Arnold and James R. Brandon each not less than fifty-five years.

H. W. Emmerson was advanced to the presidency to fill vacancy caused by death of John S. Hiller. Two Vice Presidents, William Arnold and Asa Rush, having also died, there were three vacancies in the office of Vice President, which were filled by the appointment of Dennis Hart, David Studabaker and James R. Brandon.

On motion, Rev. T. A. Brandon was appointed to prepare a paper for the next meeting, on "Recollections of Early Life in Darke County."

August 3, 1876, the association met on the fair grounds, President in the chair. Prayer by Elder C. M. Sharp. Reports of committees received. At the afternoon session, W. S. Harper presented the "Constitution of the Darke County Library Association," which was accepted and filed. W. S. Harper read a poem entitled, "A Hundred Years Ago." George Arnold was elected Vice President, vice J. R. Brandon, deceased.

The association met in the Probate Court room July 11, 1877, and listened to an address by Emerson, relative to early settlement, and others spoke of the same subject, among them David Brown, eighty-six years of age.

A session was held August 3, 1877, at the city hall, Greenville. Speeches were made, and the committee on deceased members reported the demise of James R. Brandon, Hannah Hunter, L. N. Byram, Sarah Stokely, Aaron Fleming, John McClure, Adam Bean, Isaac Cox, D. P. Judy and J. Mendenhall, a heavy mortality calling away so many.

The session of July 5, 1879, was held in the Probate Court room, with President F. L. Hamilton in the chair. Following prayer, by Chaplain C. M. Sharp, Samuel Hahn and William F. Bishop were elected Vice Presidents, and Joseph Cole, Jr., Secretary. An address was delivered by G. V. Dorsey, of Piqua. Thanks were tendered and the meeting adjourned.

On June 2, 1879, the pioneers, headed by the silver cornet band, met at the city hall in Greenville, whence they proceeded with, C. G. Matchett as Marshal, to the fair ground. The association was called to order by the President, Lemuel Rush. The exercises began by reading the thirtieth Psalm and prayer by Elder T. A. Brandon, of Union City. The death of F. L. Hamilton was reported, and the election of Thomas P. Turpen to fill vacancy caused by promotion of Mr. Rush to the presidency. A speech was made in the afternoon by A. R. Calderwood; he was followed by Norman Sumner, of Atlanta, Ill. Mr. Sumner had settled in Darke in 1817, and had moved away about 1850. Other speeches were made, when the society adjourned.

The following are present officers: Lemuel Rush, President; David Studabaker, First Vice President; George Arnold, Second Vice President; Samuel Hahn, Third Vice President; W. F. Bishop, Fourth Vice President; Thomas B. Turpen, Fifth Vice President; Henry Arnold, Treasurer; W. S. Harper, Corresponding Secretary; Joseph Cole, Jr., Secretary; L. B. Scott, Assistant Secretary.

On October 28, 1879, Mr. Cole tendered his resignation as Secretary of the association. It is hoped that the future of the society may be marked by care in securing and filing reminiscences and addresses for the benefit of coming generations.

The Darke County Medical Society supplies a part of an interesting chapter. It could do more were it to have engrossed the story of labors performed, fatigue endured and unselfish efforts made to relieve suffering. Too often sacrifices were



coupled with slight prospect of remuneration, but to the honor of the profession it is said that humanitarian considerations have ever outweighed the thoughts of personal profit. Even in the fee bill of 1867, exceptions were made "in cases where charity may induce a departure therefrom." At a meeting held July 15, 1848, the physicians of Darke County assembled, called Dr. I. N. Gard to the chair, and Dr. J. E. Matchett was chosen Secretary. It was made known that the organization of a County Medical Society was the object of the meeting and Drs. Otwell, Baskerville, Koogler, Stiles and Dorwin were appointed a committee to draft constitution and by-laws. Drs. Hostetter, Ayres, Harter, Larrimore and Matchett were chosen to draft and report a bill of prices; and Drs. Gilpatrick, Potts, Howe and Evans a committee to report a code of laws and medical ethics. The constitution was adopted by articles *seriatim*, following which the constitutions and by-laws were agreed to by a unanimous vote. I. N. Gard was chosen President for the ensuing year; R. Gilpatrick, Vice President; A. Koogler, Recording Secretary; O. G. Potts, Corresponding Secretary, and Alfred Ayers, Treasurer. Drs. Otwell, J. M. Baskerville and R. Gilpatrick were chosen Censors. Other reports were referred back to their committees. They assembled next at Temperance Hall, Greenville, July 29, 1848, disposed of sundry matters and ordered 200 copies of the constitution printed. Twelve physicians were present. A regular meeting was held October 7, at which President Gard read his "inaugural address." Dr. Otwell read a dissertation on quackery, following which he offered the following: *Resolved*, That the members of this Society discountenance the making and vending or recommending the use of any patent medicines for curing intermittent fevers." It was referred to a special committee.

Dissertations were read on April 9, 1849, by different members and placed on file. Dr. Harter was received as a member, and essayists appointed for the next session. Meetings were held at intervals and, finally, discontinued to be renewed May 16, 1855, when Dr. Gard, President, A. Ayres, Treasurer, W. H. Matchett, Secretary pro tem., and J. E. Matchett, E. Lynch, Hostetter, S. D. Hager and I. I. Larrimore were present. An election was held resulting in the choice of J. E. Matchett for President; Hostetter, Vice President; A. Ayres, Treasurer; E. Lynch, Recording Secretary, and I. N. Gard, Corresponding Secretary. Drs. Hager and Matchett were presented and recorded as members. Two months later, twelve members were present at a session, at which Dr. Jobes, Blunt, McCandless, Carey, Williamson and Lecklider were unanimously received into the society. A break occurring here extended to April 16, 1863, when the society convened at the office of Dr. J. E. Matchett for re-organization. Drs. John Ford, Francis Kuswick, S. K. Sour, J. P. Gordon and A. Koogler were received as members, and an election held with the result following: E. Otwell, President; J. C. Williamson, Vice President; E. Lynch, Secretary; J. A. Jobes, Corresponding Secretary, and A. Koogler, Treasurer. At the next meeting, held in Smith & Ullery's Hall, May 14, 1863, nineteen members were present. An address was read by the President, entitled "Union, in its application to the Medical Profession." Drs. C. T. Evans, W. E. Hoover, James Ruby and H. W. Dorwin were received as members. Various meetings were held at which the experience of members was given, unusual cases noted, and, on July 7, 1864, Dr. Theo Luff was admitted a member. February 9, 1865, J. E. Fackler and O. E. Lucas became members, and Dr. Otwell resigned. From this period forward, the sessions were profitable to members, affording opportunity for comparing modes and illustrating cases. Meetings continued regularly until 1880. On May 20, 1869, E. Lynch, President, read an inaugural address. On October 6, an interesting meeting was held at which twenty-two members were present.

*Personal of the Profession.*—Among the early pioneers in the practice, were two men of culture and refinement—Drs. Briggs and Perrine. The former was a Vermonter; came to Darke in 1817; settled in Greenville, where, in 1847, he died. The latter practiced in Greenville, and the range of his professional calls extended





from the Whitewater to remote parts of the county, and even into Jay and Randolph, in Indiana. There were no county infirmaries, in many cases not even Township Trustees, to provide for the poor, and the Doctor had often a labor of love. Dr. Baskerville was an ornament to his profession. Among veterans, are Drs. Gard Otwell, Lynch and the Drs. Matchett. From 1848 to 1869, fifty-four physicians were enrolled as members of the association, and seventeen of these fell before the enemy whose advance they might retard but not prevent.

*The Darke County Bar Association* was established in 1854, principally for the purpose of constructing and adopting a fee bill. Judge John Beers was President. The association did not continue long in existence, but the fee bill has been substantially adhered to up to this time, being recognized by the courts and the profession in the county. The spirit that led to the scale of prices was much to protect clients, as is proved by the unvaried scale of remuneration during the inflation of war times.

*The Greenville Bar.*—Greenville is the home of a number of good lawyers, men generally good in intention, pleadings and ability. To write the history of the bar would require a knowledge of the days of Judges Beers and Crane, William Crane, Luther Montfort, Dempsey and the like, but the brief sketches which follow will inform the reader who and what compose the bar of to-day.

In the spring of 1868, Charles Anderson, of Pennsylvania, came to Greenville. He had served during the war, taught school, read law, and being admitted to practice, demonstrated fine ability, promises well, and has one of the finest libraries in town.

William Allen was born in Butler County August 13, 1827, admitted 1849, and commenced practice in Greenville. He served two terms as Prosecuting Attorney, and published a newspaper; was a member of Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh Congresses, and was, by appointment, Judge of Common Pleas Court; declined a nomination for Congress, from ill health, in 1878; controls a large practice, and is peer to any member of the bar. He is impressive in speech at the forum, and sociable at private life.

Matthew T. Allen, of Butler County, attended Otterbein University; began study of law in 1866, was admitted in 1869, and appointed Prosecuting Attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Indiana. He removed to this city in 1872.

Theodore Beers was born in Darke County in 1826; began practice at the age of twenty-six; has of late years acted as Justice of the Peace, and is well read in law, valuable in council, and quite popular.

David Beers, also a native of the county, has practiced since 1843. At the age of sixty-three, he has the esteem of the entire bar, and is faithful to clients, litigating only from good cause shown.

Henry Calkins, now filling the office of Prosecuting Attorney for a second term, was born in Bradford County, Penn., in 1832; was Captain of Company C, Eighty-seventh Indiana Volunteers. He read law in Jersey County, Ill., in 1868; came to Greenville in 1871.

Judge A. T. Bodle came to Darke in 1843, and for some years was a school teacher; he was appointed Probate Judge, resumed practice of law on retiring from office, and is precise, scholarly, and a good reasoner.

M. C. Benham, of Warren County, was admitted February 1, 1876; his previous life having been in commercial pursuits, he makes that branch a specialty.

L. E. Chenoweth, of Darke, served in the Sixty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was admitted December, 1876.

J. E. Braden was born in June, 1852; common education, attended law school at Cincinnati, and, having read law, was admitted in January, 1879.

Jacob Baker was born in 1840; was student at Salem College, was admitted in January, 1864; was elected to the Legislature; returning, he resumed practice.

John C. Clark, Henry M. Cole, J. C. Elliott, Charles Frizzell, R. S. Frizzell, D. P. Irwin and S. Judy are all of them lawyers who have practiced, or are in practice, the bar of this county.





Charles Calkins, native of Pennsylvania, where he was born February 11, 1827; was in the lumber trade nine years; went to California in 1849, returned, read law, and is in practice.

John and Elijah Devor are natives of Greenville—sons of one of the original proprietors of the town. The former was admitted at Troy, in 1853; has served as Register in Bankruptcy, and is a man of means and enterprise. The latter has been practicing since 1871; has been City Solicitor; is Secretary of the Gas Company, and partner in practice with Judge Bodle.

Richard S. Dills is thirty-two years of age; is a linguist, and has given much attention to scientific investigation; began practice in Greenville in 1876, as partner of D. P. Bowman, deceased; since officed with Hon. J. Baker.

Barnabas Collins was born in Preble County May 26, 1836; his father, William Collins, was a lawyer and clergyman of good standing. His early life was an example of industry; he was an indefatigable student. When fifteen years of age, Mr. Kirkham, author of a once well-known Grammar, visited Williamsport, selling his work, and, noticing Collins, sold him a book at half price. He continued as he had begun, and ultimately became one of the best-educated men of his day; he was well informed in theology, as well as law, and was acquainted with other subjects outside of these professions. He settled in Randolph County, Ind., in 1831, when he married. About 1845, he located at Euphemia, Preble County. In the spring of 1849, he moved to Greenville, and while officiating in the pulpit, built up an extensive law practice. His death was September 5, 1855. Barnabas was the second son in a family of six children; he passed his youth as practical printer; supplemented a brief common-school education by a tutelage under Calvin Parker, a term at Delaware College, and an extended course in science and literature; was admitted in 1858. In the spring of 1862, he was nominated State Senator on the Union ticket, but entered the army as First Lieutenant in the Eighty-sixth Indiana; returned, settled in Greenville, and, later, moved to California.

A. R. Calderwood was born in Montgomery County September 4, 1818, he removed, with his parents to Darke in 1832; was carpenter, teacher, student at law, and admitted in 1851; elected Probate Judge in 1854; Captain of Company I, Fortieth Ohio Volunteers; a recruiting officer at home, and has been three times elected Mayor of Greenville, besides holding a number of local offices of trust.

Ira Lecklider, L. F. Limbert and M. F. Myers are members recently admitted.

L. B. Lott is about fifty years of age; represented Darke County one term in the Legislature; finally engaged in farming, in which pursuit he continues.

J. T. Martz was born in Darke County September 14, 1833, and has an early experience of hard work. When a boy, he chopped and hauled cordwood to earn money to pay his school tuition. When of age, he had saved from his labor and by teaching \$250. He graduated in the scientific course, at Delaware, in 1856, and had \$2.50 remaining. From this time till 1861 he taught school and read law, was admitted, had brief practice, when elected Superintendent of Union Schools, which position he filled till 1865, when he was appointed receiver of the Marietta and Cincinnati Railroad. Was again chosen Superintendent of Public Schools in Greenville, in 1871, and continues to hold and to fill the position. In Mr. Martz are combined the essential elements of tact, ability, energy, honesty and true manhood, qualities certain to win their possessors success, whatever their vocation.

C. G. Matchett was born in Darke County May 6, 1832. He began the study of law in May, 1853, graduated in the class of 1855-66 at the Cincinnati Law College, from which he received the degree of LL. B. April 15, 1856, he was admitted to the bar and began practice a few months later. In 1860, his health failing, he sought by travel to find a more congenial location, but finding a warlike spirit prevailing in the South while there, returned home November 1, 1860, and devoted his time to military studies. He entered the service immediately after the first



Sumter, and remained till the close of the war. In 1865, he resumed practice in Greenville, and stands prominent in the profession.

J. T. Meeker was born in Darke in 1831 : was a school teacher ; was admitted in 1873 ; was Probate Judge seven years. Retiring, he entered upon practice, and is connected with other interests.

E. W. Otwell was born in North Carolina in 1831 : graduated at Delaware, Ohio ; read law, and was admitted in 1856. Entered upon profession of journalist in 1860, and continues in that work as proprietor of the *Greenville Journal*.

Temperance efforts were made by individuals at an early date, but it was not till 1837 or 1838 that our record shows anything like an organized or co-operative effort. About the time stated, Samuel Cole, Peter Kimber and Father Murphy, all residents near Coleville, agreed that intemperance was a dangerous evil wherever prevalent, and set themselves *not* to supply intoxicating liquors thereafter in harvest, at raisings and other occasions. They experienced some trouble in securing help, but held to their compact.

In 1842, the Washingtonians sprang up in Greenville and all the adjacent country. A temperance revival was effected at Fort Jefferson by Porter, a shoemaker by trade, and a hard drinker, from Cincinnati. After a prolonged debauch this man's life had been saved by Dr. Muzzey, who, finding him more than ordinarily intelligent and resolved on reform, encouraged him to enter the lecture field, and in a tour that embraced a large part of the State, he came to Darke County. Prominent men, such as Dr. I. N. Gard, Gen. Hiram Bell, Judge Beers and Dr. Gilpatrick lent their co-operation, and the Washingtonians not only increased rapidly in numbers in Greenville, but organizations sprang up in every village in the county. The three last-named persons systematically canvassed the county, and held frequent discussions. Abstinence was a novel idea, and it met earnest opposition by some very good, well-meaning men. Judge Beers treated the subject ironically, and attracted large audiences. He argued that "if no one became drunk, all would become respectable and there would be none to do menial service; that the doctors would soon starve, the lawyers would have to share the same fate, and the ministers would gather all the sinners into the fold and find their occupation gone." Sometimes a drunken man was sent in to break up the meeting. The temperance men held on well, did much good, but gradually gave way to other organizations.

From 1855 to 1858 inclusive, the Sons of Temperance flourished, and the membership in Greenville was over two hundred. A decadence finally took place after the society had established a footing in every village and wrought marked and beneficial changes in public sentiment touching this great topic.

In January, 1868, under a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of the State, Greenville Lodge, No. 524, I. O. G. T., was organized. Mr. Macomber, then Principal of the Greenville schools, was the first Worthy Chief Templar; Mrs. D. R. Adams, W. V., and Dr. E. Lynd, W. C. The order has ceased to exist, and its records are inaccessible. The organization was effected over the store of George W. Moore, in his hall, on the corner of Third street and Broadway. After a few meetings, the order removed to the hall over what was then the store of Nathaniel Webb (now Mr. Leer's). Meetings were held at the residence of Mrs. Deborah Gerard, and finally in the present Masonic Hall. At the close of the first year, the order numbered sixty-five; its maximum strength was reached in 1869-70, when there were nearly two hundred members. From this time, interest declined. The Young Templars were organized August 17, 1870, under the title, Greenville Commandery, No. 3. They met in Hart's Hall. Among the leaders were Dr. Sharp, E. Matchett, Mrs. Keen and Mrs. D. Adams. There was at one time forty members. It had an existence of but two years.

The *Women's Christian Temperance Union* was formed at Greenville February 19, 1886, and numbers about forty members. The officers are Mrs. May Ferguson, President; Mesdames Martin, Adams, Webb, Eastman, Frances Clark, Gross, Vice





Presidents; Mrs. Ella Matchett, Secretary, and Mrs. Bowman, Corresponding Secretary.

*The Crusade* began in Greenville in February, 1874. About seventy ladies met at a previously designated place to begin the work. Rain required the use of umbrellas, and the novel procession, as it moved along from one saloon to another, presented a somewhat grotesque appearance. But the work was resolutely continued until the July following. At one time, all saloons were closed and remained so until after spring elections.

The temperance movement again assumed new interest in 1877. Among early converts was George Calderwood, who has acquired reputation as an earnest worker in the cause. Many of the oldest professional and other citizens are either lifelong teetotallers or are from principle strictly abstinent. Temperance was the issue in the spring election of 1880. Papers were published, the *Gazette* and the *American Prohibitionist*, in the interest of the cause and candidates, with general success.

*The Young Men's Christian Association of Greenville*, auxiliary to the State Association, was organized February, 1878. The first meeting was held in Allen's Hall, corner of Broadway and Fourth street, the use of which has been ever since generously donated by William Allen its proprietor. The officers during the first year were: R. T. Johnson, President; George A. Harter, Vice President; J. Arnold, Secretary; Albert Miller, Treasurer. Second year: George Harter, President; A. N. Brewer, Vice President; C. M. Ensmiger, Secretary; the latter remained in office a brief time, resigned and Alpha Miller was chosen to fill the vacancy. The first year, thirteen meetings were held in the hall, twelve in the infirmary and eight in the band park; total, thirty-three. Meetings have also been held in various schoolhouses and churches in various parts of the county.

*The Darke County Bible Society*.—At a union meeting of the various churches, held in the M. E. Church, at Greenville, December 22, 1861, for the purpose of reviving this society, which was first organized in July, 1835, following the delivering of a sermon by Rev. W. Herr, General Agent of the American Bible Society. Judge Wilson was called to the chair and George H. Martz appointed Secretary, whereupon a constitution was adopted and officers chosen, viz.: W. Wilson, President; John Wharry, Vice President; G. H. Martz, Secretary; H. C. Angel, Depository; Executive Committee—John H. Martin, Thomas Adams, T. H. McCune, J. A. Schmermand, J. N. Biddle, C. Kline and H. H. Rush. On January 7, 1862, eight ladies were appointed to canvass the town for subscriptions. May 11, Rev. Herr preached an anniversary sermon. Contributions by the churches were \$23.79; 1,920 families had been visited by the county agent, Rev. J. Scott; 191 families had no Bible, 64 were partially supplied, and 297 children had no Testaments, and 64 meetings had been held. May 17, 1863, the Sabbath schools had contributed \$55.22. The Bible Depository was then located at the depot of the Dayton & Union Railway. The progress of the society financially and in extension of interest was satisfactory, and thanks were tendered pastors, churches and Sabbath schools for aid given. The depository was placed at Adams & Snyder's store. On January 28, 1866, a jubilee meeting was held, addresses were made and collection taken. Rev. A. Miller was chosen to canvass the county in 1867, to organize township branch societies, but no work was done. Rev. S. B. Sheeks, in 1868, canvassed the county, visited 1,943 families, sold many Bibles and Testaments, appointed 8 township societies, 30 social agents. There were forty Protestant churches in the field, of which twenty-four were co-operative; traveled 1,050 miles, held 9 Bible meetings and delivered 30 addresses. On August 8, 1870, there were \$411.23 worth of books on hand. In July, 1871, \$330.50. Rev. C. L. Carter was canvasser of Greenville and vicinity. June, 1873, there were 740 volumes on hand, 430 sold during the year and 83 donated. At the thirty-ninth anniversary, Rev. W. Herr read as follows: "Darke County Bible Society was recognized as an auxiliary of the American Bible Society, July, 1835, since which time it donated





the parent society \$78.69; expended for books, \$1,818.13, and circulated about 3,794 volumes. On December 22, 1875, Rev. Samuel Scott reported visits to 3,306 families; traveled 1,529 miles in 76 days, in the work, and preached 52 sermons, besides other work, receiving from the society a hearty vote of thanks. On March 16, 1879, officers elected were William M. Matchett, President; J. W. Ault, Vice President; E. A. Ullery, Depositary, and A. J. Arnold, Treasurer. The following June, at a called meeting, the Depositary reported the books belonging to the society nearly all destroyed by fire, and such as were of value sufficient were sent to New York for re-binding. On motion, the Gettysburg Society was permitted to organize independently. Aside from the calamity of fire, the history of the society is a record of successful religious home missionary work.

There are members of the various benevolent societies in the county, some of which have local organizations, others none. There are forty-five members of the order of Knights Templar in Darke County, who belong to Coleman Commandery, No. 17, of Troy, and Reed Commandery, No. 6, of Dayton. Of these, twenty-seven reside in Greenville.

A lodge of the Improved Order of Red Men was organized in October, 1870, under a dispensation of the Great Council of State of Ohio, and at one time there was a membership of over eighty. It flourished for a period, and finally the charter was surrendered in May, 1875.

*The Patrons of Husbandry* spread like a wave all over the country, and in Darke County the societies flourished for a time extensively, and there are still several well-sustained granges. The Greenville Grange was organized April, 1874; Arthur Beard, Master; Everly Otwell, Secretary. Meetings were held in McConnell's Hall, on Broadway. Shortly afterward, a grange store was established on Broadway, but did not prove a success. In various localities, organizations are preserved and are successfully managed with manifest advantages to the members.

We close the chapter by brief allusion to an organization known as the "Darke County Self-Protection Association," designed to secure the arrest, conviction and punishment of horse-thieves and other depredators. It was formed in March, 1845, with a score of members, which number was soon increased to forty. James Devor was the first President; John Wharry, Secretary, and David Stamm, Treasurer. Over a quarter of a century elapsed when a like society was formed and held quarterly meetings. The first President under the late organization was Thomas Lecklider; Arthur Baird, Secretary.

#### DARKE COUNTY DURING THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

Telegrams from Charleston, S. C., read as follows: "April 13. The cannonading is going on fiercely from all points, from the vessels outside and all along the coast. It is reported that Fort Sumter is on fire. The batteries on Sullivan's Island, Cummings' Point and Steven's Battery, are pouring shot and shell into Sumter, and Maj. Anderson does not return the fire. Fort Sumter is still on fire." Then came another dispatch: "Fort Sumter has unconditionally surrendered. The people are wild with joy. Two thousand shots were fired altogether. Anderson and men were conveyed to Morris Island under guard." Finally, the people read: "Maj. Anderson with command will evacuate in the morning and embark on the war vessels now off the harbor."

President Lincoln issued the following proclamation on April 16:

WHEREAS, the laws of the United States have been and are now opposed in several of the States by combinations too powerful to be suppressed in the ordinary way, I, therefore, call forth the militia of the several States of the Union, to the aggregate number of 75,000, to suppress said combinations and execute the laws. I appeal to all loyal citizens to facilitate and aid this effort to maintain the laws, the integrity of the National Union, and the perpetuity of popular government, and redress wrongs that have long been endured. The first service assigned to the forces will be to repossess the forts, places and property that have been seized from the Union. The utmost care will be taken, consistent with the object, to avoid devastation and



destruction, or interference with property of peaceful citizens, in any part of the country, and I hereby command persons composing the aforesaid combinations to disperse within twenty days from date. I hereby convene both houses of Congress for the Fourth of July next, to determine upon measures which the public safety and interest demand.

The response from Darke County was prompt, determined and practical. Union meetings were held at Greenville, Union, Hill Grove. Speeches, fervent and patriotic, were delivered, and within a few days, three full companies of volunteers had been raised. On Wednesday afternoon of April 24, three companies had left the county—two from Greenville, led by Capts. Frizell and Newkirk, and one from Union, under Capt. Cranor, aggregating full three hundred men. These troops were mustered into the United States service as Companies C, I and K, of the Eleventh Ohio, and on April 29 went into Camp Dennison, where they rapidly learned the discomforts and expedients of military life, shouting and cheering as they marked the arrival of fresh bodies of improvised troops. At home, the people manifested their zeal by generous contributions for the support of soldiers' families. One hundred and sixty citizens of Darke are named in the *Greenville Journal* of May 8, for a sum subscribed to that end of \$2,500. The mothers, daughters and sisters sent to camp boxes of provisions; the men freely contributed of their means to aid the loyal cause. Bull Run was fought, and soon three months had gone by and the volunteers returning to Greenville were discharged only to re-enter the service for a longer term. Two companies were soon ready for the field. As the magnitude of the struggle developed, the people of Darke County became yet more resolute in their desire to assist in restoring the union of the States. Meetings continued to be held; addresses full of fervid appeals were uttered, and a continuous stream of men gathered into camps, were organized and moved southward. The enlistments in the fall of 1861 were for three years. The Fortieth Regiment contained about two hundred men from Darke. In the Thirty-fourth was a company of eighty-four men who were sent with their regiment to Western Virginia. In the Forty-fourth, a company went out under Capt. J. M. Newkirk. On October 28, the ladies of Greenville met at the court house and organized as "The Ladies' Association of Greenville for the relief of the Darke County Volunteers." They appointed as officers, President, Mrs. A. G. Putnam; Secretary, Mrs. J. N. Beedle, and Treasurer, Mrs. J. L. Winner, and formed a committee to solicit donations of money and clothing. Public meetings continued to be held at various points; recruiting was stimulated, and on November 6, it was reported that the county had turned out 200 volunteers within twenty days. Letters came from men in the field descriptive of arms, tents, rations, incidents and marches. Novelty excited close observation, and there were reports of duties, health, and all too soon came back the news of death. Heavy tidings is always that of death, and a sad duty to the comrade to tell it to the one watching and waiting at home. This was often done with a tact, a kindness, a language that honored the soldier writer, and tended to assuage the grief of the recipient. Such was the letter penned by Thomas R. Smiley, of the Thirty-fourth, from Camp Red House, West Virginia, to Mrs. Swartz, telling of her son's death, by fever, and closing with these words: "Hoping and praying that God will sustain you in your grief, I most respectfully subscribe myself your friend in sorrow." No wonder the right triumphed, upheld by men of such Christian and manly principles.

The families of soldiers began in midwinter to suffer, and the following extract from the letter of a wife to her husband, a volunteer from Darke County, will show a trial among others borne by the soldier in the sense of helplessness to aid his loved ones. It is commended to the perusal of any who think war a pastime. She wrote: "I have so far been able to support myself and our dear children, with the help that the relief committee gave me; but I am now unable to work, and the committee has ceased to relieve me. I am warned that I will have to leave the comfortable home which you left us in, and I will have to scatter the children. Where will I go and what will become of me? Don't leave





without permission, as it would only be giving your life for mine. I will trust in God and live in hope, although things look very discouraging. Do the best you can, and send some money as soon as possible." During the earlier part of the war, letters told of minor matters, but later accounts were brief and freighted heavily with tidings of battles, wounds and deaths.

In July, 1862, the clouds of war hung heavy with disaster. East and West, terrible battles were fought, and the Southerners, with a desperate, honorable courage, forced their way into Maryland and Kentucky. New troops volunteered by thousands, and joined the veterans to roll back the tide of invasion. At this time, John L. Winner was Chairman of the Military Committee of Darke, whose proportion of the call for 40,000 men from the State was 350 men for three years. The following shows by townships the number of electors, volunteers and those to raise :

	Electors.	Volunteers.	To Raise		Electors.	Volunteers.	To Raise
Greenville .....	925	175	10	Jackson .....	260	31	21
German .....	265	27	27	Monroe .....	175	24	11
Washington .....	255	38	13	York .....	120	9	15
Harrison .....	370	40	34	Van Buren .....	200	32	8
Butler .....	310	21	43	Allen .....	95	10	9
Neave .....	200	17	23	Mississinewa .....	130	15	11
Richland .....	193	12	27	Franklin .....	170	29	5
Wayne .....	325	65	00	Patterson .....	125	32	0
Twin .....	350	32	38	Wabash .....	110	12	10
Adams .....	320	37	27				
Brown .....	215	27	16	Total .....	5105	685	348

This table, while creditable to all, is especially so to Wayne and Patterson. Mass meetings were called, volunteers urged to come forward, bounties were offered, and, responding to call by Gov. Tod, the militia was ordered enrolled. Along in August, recruiting proceeded rapidly: young and middle-aged flocked to the camps, and soon four companies were off to the camp at Piqua. On September 3, 1862, eight townships had exceeded their quota. There were 4,903 men enrolled, and 201 to be raised by draft. Successive calls found hearty responses. In May, 1864, three townships had filled their quotas, and the draft called for 186 men.

The services of the military committee of Darke deserving of honorable record is hereby acknowledged by a list as it was at the close of 1863: Daniel R. Davis, Capt. Charles Calkins, Capt. B. B. Allen and W. M. Wilson, Secretary.

How well Darke County stood at the close of the war may be learned from the following statistics: The quota of the county in December, 1864, was 455. Of these, 384 volunteered, 24 were drafted, and 408 furnished. Over 1,500 volunteers were out from the county. It is a pleasing duty to briefly place upon the pages of home history a record of those regiments wherein Darke County men rendered service to their country. Brief though it be, it is a worthy meed of honor.

The Eleventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry was organized at Camp Dennison in May, 1861, and mustered into the service for three months. The company from Darke was lettered C. and commanded by Capt. R. A. Knox, with C. Calkins and Thomas McDowell, Lieutenants. The regiment was ordered east, and camped in Virginia. It was re-organized June 20, and mustered in for three years, and sent, in July, on a scout up the Kanawha. The Colonel, incautiously exposing himself, was captured, and the command devolved upon Lieut. Col. Frizell, who, July 20, set out with the regiment on a march to Charleston. Moving at midnight some miles, they halted for other troops, and, during the ensuing day, came upon works of the enemy at Tyler Mound. The rebels fled at their approach, but a steamboat on the river, unable to get away, was fired into and blown up. The





night was passed in the works of the enemy, and the next day advance was resumed. Wise, on his retreat, had burned the floor of the suspension bridge over the river, and had tried, with partial success, to sever the cable. The bridge was at once repaired, to permit the passage of wagons; and pursuit was made to Gauley Bridge and there ceased. In August, the command was twice engaged near New River. In the first skirmish, several men were wounded, and in the second, one man was killed. Early in October, the regiment was encamped on one of the peaks of Sewell Mountain, from which commanding position they could look down upon the camps of the enemy, whose works were one and one-half miles distant, and see them at work or lounging about. It was claimed, at this time, that the Eleventh had done as good service as any other in Western Virginia. They had lain out in the weather sixteen nights, without blankets or shelter, and had not lain in camp four weeks altogether during their stay in the State. October 20, the regiment was ordered to prepare to march at midnight. The vexations and tiresome delays so well understood by old soldiers were experienced, and as the necessity for celerity increased, so did the confusion, and by 7 A. M. they had proceeded but three and a half miles from camp, and were moving at a snail's pace, in the rear of an immense wagon train, drawn by poor, half-starved beasts. Gen. Rosecrans, in command, ordered Gen. Cox, in command of the division, to burn the baggage of the Eleventh, to lighten the wagons. The regiment desired to form the rear guard and save their baggage, but were refused, and a part of this hindrance was destroyed; thereafter, a comparatively easy march succeeded. They went into winter quarters at Point Pleasant early in December, and nothing occurred to vary the routine of camp life until April 16, 1862, when an advance was made, via Winfield, to Gauley Bridge. Having proceeded with the division as far as Raleigh, in the campaign of the Kanawha, they were then detached and ordered on post duty—always irksome and subject of reproach. Retreating from Cotton Mountain along the road from Shady Springs to Pack's Ferry, on New River, Floyd thoroughly blockaded the route for sixteen miles. Companies G and K, of the Eleventh, were sent to remove obstructions and guard the road. While one part of the detail was busy with spade and ax, another stood to arms: and so they labored for five days, when the road was clear to the ferry. They then demolished a barn near by, and from the timbers constructed two boats. There they joined, and so formed a ferry-boat 140 feet in length, whereby the wings of the Kanawha army were brought into communication. The regiment returned to Gauley Bridge late in July, when Company C was sent to Summersville, where it remained some time. About the middle of August, the Eleventh was moved to Parkersburg, and transported thence by rail to Washington, D. C., and camped near Alexandria. It was sent, August 27, to Manassas Junction, but, arriving at Fairfax Station, it was ascertained that the enemy were in force at Manassas, and troops posted there were retreating. The enemy, advancing upon the flank, were checked by the regiment, which forded Bull Run and formed line of battle near the railroad. Companies E and F were detailed to guard the ford and the railroad, while the rest of the Eleventh assisted in the futile effort to stay the rebel advance. Orders came at 3 P. M. to fall back to Fairfax, and the Eleventh performed their duty as rear guard and insured the safe retreat of the column. At the station the wounded were placed, while the command, about three thousand strong, formed in line outside. Late at night, orders came to fall in, and by noon the next day the column was safe within the defenses at Washington. The Kanawha division moved next day, and the Eleventh was posted within works on Munson's Hill.

September 6, the Eleventh moved toward Maryland, and by the 12th had encountered the rebel pickets near Frederick City. The enemy held the bridge over the Monocacy, and were strongly posted along its banks. The Union forces were formed in three columns, the central column being opposite the bridge and the Eleventh at its head. The advance began and the enemy were driven from



the bridge. Following a charge, the Union line became disorganized and the enemy rallying captured the section of a battery. Gen. Cox called upon Col. Coleman to retake the guns. He led the Eleventh in a charge which not only recovered the artillery, but drove the enemy through the city in a complete rout. By evening of the next day, the Kanawha Division was posted near Middletown, and the Eleventh was near the bridge over Catoctin Creek. Early on the following morning, the creek was crossed, and the division marched toward Turner's Gap, in South Mountain. They were now near the enemy, and turning to the left entered the old Sharpsburg road, and in a narrow ravine covered by forest trees and underwood, the Eleventh prepared for battle. As the order came to advance, the men moved along the skirts of a strip of woods and frustrated an effort of the enemy to flank our lines. Sharpshooters kept up their deadly practice, but there was no recreancy. About mid-day there was one of those ominous lulls, which are forerunners of the crash of battle, and about 3 P. M., amid hard fighting, the Union lines were seen advancing. The Eleventh advanced over an open field upon the enemy sheltered by a stone wall. Reaching the wall, the soldiers fought with clubbed guns and bayonets, in an almost hand-to-hand fight. The rebels finally fell back toward Sharpsburg, and again, as morning came, the Union columns were in pursuit. The army now gathered for the struggle at Antietam, and the Kanawha Division, under Gen. Cook, was posted near the lower bridge over Antietam Creek, the Eleventh being in line upon a slope of ground above the bridge. The battle of September 17 had raged furiously with varying fortune, until 10 A. M., when an attempt was made to carry the bridge, but so heavy a fire was encountered from the heights opposite that the column was driven back. Just at this moment came orders from the Commander-in-Chief to "carry the bridge at all hazards." The Eleventh was placed at the head of the charging column, and began a steady, determined advance. Col. Coleman fell mortally wounded. There was momentary irresolution: then the men closed up firmly, moved over the bridge, up the heights and dislodged the enemy. Col. Coleman was succeeded in command by P. P. Lane.

A severe march was endured by the division in a march begun on the morning of Oct. 8, to Hagerstown, Md. They reached the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad and were transported to Clarksburg, and as the November storms came on, the Eleventh, without tents, blankets or adequate clothing, suffered from exposure, but in the distribution of the troops they were sent to Summerville, an outpost of the troops in the Kanawha Valley, and there, erecting good winter quarters, soon surrounded themselves with the protection needed to recover health and spirits. While a part of the regiment held the post, another part was mounted and guarded the Gauley fords. A foray was made into the county during the winter, and the men suffered materially from the severity of the weather.

In January, 1863, the command under Gen. Cook was embarked at Gallipolis, and proceeded via Ohio and Cumberland to Nashville, Tenn., whence they moved to Carthage on the Tennessee, and fortified their position. March 24, the Eleventh went on a scout to Rome and captured a captain, a number of soldiers, a wagon train and a number of teams belonging to the command of Gen. Forrest.

April 13, the Eleventh took part in a reconnaissance toward McMinnville, and found the enemy with artillery and cavalry prepared to dispute advance. Col. Lane, in command, sent for cannon and his troops repelled attacks made upon them. The command was ordered to return to Carthage. Another march was made ten days later with no results, and May 27, the Eleventh marched to Murfreesboro, and was placed in Third Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, under Gen. George H. Thomas. June 24, the division under Gen. Reynolds, moving along the Manchester pike, engaged the enemy at Hoover's Gap. The Eleventh stood to arms during the night, and, following up the repulse of the enemy, led the advance into Manchester, and captured a number of rebels. The Eleventh in advance of the brigade moved, on the 29th, upon the Tullahoma road. The enemy was encountered





at noon and driven. On July 1. Cook's brigade entered Tullahoma. The Eleventh followed the enemy to the immediate vicinity of Decherd Station, on the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad, and August 2, moved to University, Jasper, and September 1, crossed the Tennessee at Shell Mound; moved to Trenton, thence through Cooper's Gap, and on the 17th repulsed a rebel attack at Catlett's Gap. The Eleventh changed position during the next day several times, marched by night, and by daylight of the 19th, was in line of battle near Gordon's Mill, on a wooded rise of ground east of the Rowville road. At this point, Chaplain Lyle rode to the center of the line and, briefly exhorting the men, asked them to join him in prayer. At once, every hat was removed, the colors were dropped, and amid the crashes of musketry the voice of the minister was heard. Gen. Reynolds passing, halted, and as the prayer ceased, expressed satisfaction at being present, as he shook the chaplain's hand.

Following this impressive ceremony, the Eleventh was at once marched to the support of other regiments, holding their ground under a deadly fire, and within a short time was advanced to the front line. The balls from sharpshooters were annoying the men to such a degree that an advance was ordered and the enemy dislodged. During the afternoon, the fights continued and finally a charge cleared the division front. Next day, the regiment erected a low breastwork of logs and stones upon a rise of ground, and encountered a fire so severe that in thirty minutes Company D had lost half its men, killed or wounded. Twice the breastwork took fire; the third time it became necessary to extinguish the flames, and this was done by volunteers from Company B. As the afternoon wore away, the enemy, pouring through a gap in the lines, opened a telling cross-fire upon the Eleventh. Turchin's brigade, charging, drove them, breaking their ranks, and capturing men and guns. With night came retreat, via Rowville to Chattanooga. Several days later, a force was sent out, and in this the Eleventh engaged in a sharp skirmish with the rebels, and was then marched to occupy the line of pits to the left of Fort Negley. Later, the Eleventh moved down to Brown's Ferry, to arrest a movement to gain a position on Lookout Mountain.

November 23, the Eleventh advanced in the line on Mission Ridge, charging, it captured a battle-flag and cannon. Sergt. Bell, color-bearer, was repeatedly struck, and, finally, unable to rise, resigned the colors to Lieut. Peck, who had but planted them on the rebel works, when he fell, mortally wounded. The regiment was severely engaged at Ringgold Gap, whence it marched back to Chattanooga. On February 17, 1864, Chaplain Lyle presented the Eleventh with a stand of colors—the gift of the ladies of Troy, Ohio. The regiment took part in a reconnaissance toward Rocky Face Ridge and found the enemy in a strong position at Buzzard's Roost. Here a most unfortunate mistake involved the regiment in a heavy loss. It was ordered to charge up a hill strongly defended by infantry and artillery: as a result, the regiment was finally compelled to retire with a loss of one-sixth of its force. The command returned to Ringgold, and March 26, the veterans, 200 strong, returned home to recruit. They were assigned garrison duty till June 10, when they set out for home and were mustered out on the 20th at Camp Dennison, two companies having longer to serve; and the veterans were designated as the Eleventh Ohio Detachment, and placed in Baird's division, of the Fourteenth Army Corps, with which they accompanied Sherman upon his marches.

*The Thirty-fourth Regiment.*—A fine company of eighty-four men was enlisted by Capt. Thomas R. Smiley, from Darke County, and regularly mustered into service at Camp Dennison, September 10, 1861, as Company K of the Thirty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. The regiment was ordered into Western Virginia, and posted at Gauley Bridge. It took part in the battle of Princeton, May 17 and 18, losing several men. Again, on September 10, while it and the Thirty-seventh were holding the outpost at Fayetteville, they were attacked by Gen. Loring, with a force of 10,000 men. Behind works, and aided by a battery, they held their ground till night, when they retreated. At times the Thirty-fourth fought uncovered,





and, of six companies engaged, one-third of the men were killed or wounded, and one-half the officers. In May, 1863, the regiment was supplied with horses and became known as "Mounted Rifles." On July 13, 1860, the Rifles, with nine companies of cavalry, moved upon the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad, and encountered the enemy on the 18th, at Wytheville. The enemy were well posted under cover of houses and on high ground, and the fighting was desperate. About sundown, the rebels were routed and their guns captured. The Colonel was shot from his horse, and Lieut. Col. Franklin ordered a retreat. The roads were blockaded, and they returned with difficulty. In January, 1864, a majority of the men veteranized. The regiment was divided in April—the mounted men being under Averill, the others, in Crook's division. Following active service, and engagements more or less important, we find the regiment, on June 8, at Staunton, ready to take part in Hunter's raid to Lynchburg. Shots were exchanged with rebels who had been driven from Lexington, at Buckhannon, on the James. The Blue Ridge was crossed and a skirmish took place at Liberty. A partially successful attack was made on the afternoon of June 18, upon Lynchburg, but the place was not occupied, and during the night heavy re-enforcements came up from Richmond, and the national forces were put upon their defense. The enemy crowded closely upon the retiring column, and a skirmish took place at Liberty. At Salem, on the 21st inst., the rebels struck Hunter's artillery in a pass, and were rapidly destroying the caissons and rendering the guns useless, when the "Rifles" came up, and after a sharp fight, regained the guns. The discomfited army reached Charleston, July 1. Nine days later, the regiment once more united as infantry, embarked on transports for Parkersburg; moved thence to Martinsburg, in the Shenandoah Valley, and on July 20, formed part of a force that attacked Early near Winchester, routed him, took his guns and inflicted a severe blow. On the 24th, the battle of Winchester was fought, where, later, Sheridan restored the day. Devol's brigade, in which was the Thirty-fourth, brought up the rear. The regiment lost Lieut. Col. Shaw and many men. Next day, a stand was made at Martinsburg, and from this field the Thirty-fourth was the last to retire, under a heavy fire. Various marches occupied the regiment with occasional heavy skirmishing, until early in September, when the non-veterans set out for home. Notwithstanding the loss occasioned by the discharge of the men, the regiment, augmented by recruits, numbered over four hundred men. They were engaged, September 3, at Berryville, and at Winchester on September 19, then, again, at Fisher's Hill, on the 22d. The loss to the Thirty-fourth in the last two actions was sixty-one killed. On the evening of October 18, the regiment was on picket, and Early's men surprised them, capturing the Colonel and eighteen men, killing two and wounding twelve. January 11, 1865, 300 men of the Thirty-fourth, with a part of the Eighth Ohio Cavalry (dismounted), were surprised at Beverly, and only through the excitement and darkness were many enabled to escape. February 22, 1865, the remnant of the Thirty-fourth was consolidated with the Thirty-sixth, as the Thirty-sixth Veteran Volunteer Infantry.

*The Fortieth Regiment Ohio Infantry.*—This regiment was organized at Camp Chase, Ohio, in September, October and November, 1861. All of Companies E and G, the greater portion of Company I, and parts of F and K of said regiment were recruited from Darke County.

The following is a complete roster of the officers who served in said regiment from this county during its term of service:

Jonathan Cranor, Colonel; resigned.

James B. Creviston, Adjutant; resigned.

Harrison E. McClure, Adjutant; mustered out.

William H. Matchett, Assistant Surgeon; mustered out.

John D. Gennett, Captain of Company E; resigned.

Charles G. Matchett, Captain of Company G; mustered out.

Andrew R. Calderwood, Captain of Company I; resigned.

William C. Osgood, First Lieutenant of Company E, promoted to Captain; resigned.



James Allen, promoted to Captain from Sergeant; mustered out.  
 Clement Snodgrass, promoted to Captain from Sergeant; killed at Peach Tree Creek July 21, 1864.  
 Benjamin F. Snodgrass, promoted to First Lieutenant from Sergeant; killed at Chickamauga September 20, 1864.  
 Cyrenius Van Mater, First Lieutenant of Company G; killed at Chickamauga.  
 John T. Ward, Second Lieutenant of Company E; resigned.  
 William Bonner, Second Lieutenant of Company G; resigned.  
 J. W. Smith, Second Lieutenant of Company I, promoted to First Lieutenant, then to Captain; mustered out.  
 John P. Frederick, First Lieutenant of Company F; resigned.  
 John M. Wasson, promoted to Second Lieutenant; mustered out.  
 David Krouse, Second Lieutenant of Company F, promoted to First Lieutenant; mustered out.  
 Isaac N. Edwards, Sergeant; promoted to Lieutenant; mustered out.  
 James A. Fisher, Sergeant, promoted to Lieutenant; mustered out.

On the 17th day of December, 1861, the regiment left Camp Chase for Kentucky, spending Christmas on the farm of Brutus Clay, five miles east of Paris, Ky. On the next day, December 26, the regiment started for the Sandy Valley, via Mount Sterling and McCormick's Gap, and arrived at Paintsville, Ky., January 8, 1862. On the 9th, 300 picked men (thirty from each company), a Colonel, two Captains, two First and two Second Lieutenants were detailed as the regiment's proportion of the 1,000 picked men from the brigade with which Col. J. A. Garfield compelled the rebel force under Gen. Humphrey Marshall, amounting to over four thousand men, to evacuate Eastern Kentucky. The battle of Middle Creek, Kentucky, occurred between these forces on the 10th day of January, 1862. In that battle, the 300 men of the Fortieth Ohio were divided into two companies of 150 men each. One company, under the immediate command of Col. Cranor, attacked the enemy on the right, while the other company, under Capt. Matchett, were placed on our extreme left, with instructions to protect our left. Col. Garfield, in his report of the battle, shows that the field was hotly contested, and that the heaviest fighting was on the left. Capt. Matchett states, however, that "although the enemy sought to displace him from his position, yet his advantages over them were such that he was in no actual danger, having the advantage both in position and arms. The enemy, being principally armed with squirrel rifles and shot-guns, could not hope to be effective except on close range, while the Prussian rifles with which his men were armed, were effective from 1,500 yards down to the point of the bayonet. The rebels advanced upon his position two or three times, but were each time repulsed before they had come within 200 yards of it, and although the firing was quite heavy on our left, and some dead rebels were found in front of the left next morning, yet he had none killed nor wounded on the left."

Capt. Matchett further states that the "severest fighting was on the right where Col. Cranor was, but that the whole fight did not amount to a respectable skirmish, as we afterward learned on the Atlanta campaign."

On the 16th of March, the regiment participated in another skirmish at Pound Gap and drove the rebels from that stronghold, and thereby relieved Eastern Kentucky of the presence of an armed rebel force.

Soon after that, Garfield left Eastern Kentucky, and the command of the brigade devolved on Col. Cranor, who continued in command until February, 1863, when he resigned. On the 21st of February, 1863, the regiment left Eastern Kentucky, and joined the Army of the Cumberland at Nashville, Tenn., on the 28th of the same month.

On March 5, the regiment joined the Army of Kentucky, under Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger, at Franklin, Tenn. From that time, they remained with that army—afterward known as the Reserve Army Corps—until after the battle of Chickamauga.

On the 10th of April, 1863, the regiment was placed on picket duty in front of the town, with Capt. Matchett in command. At that time, the rebel forces, under





Gen. Van Dorn. were stationed at Spring Hill. Tenn., nine miles south of Franklin. Soon after 12 o'clock M., the rebels commenced an attack on seven companies of the Fortieth, which had been stationed on and between the Columbia Pike and the Big Harpeth River (a distance of about five hundred yards), but were handsomely repulsed. The attack was renewed with re-enforcements and again repulsed. By this time, the enemy were preparing to charge in force, and the situation of the Fortieth was precarious. Behind them, for the distance of more than half a mile, lay an open field without an obstacle or a shelter on it, but, momentarily expecting re-enforcements, they held their ground, and repulsed charge after charge, for two hours.

Van Dorn then formed his entire force for a charge, and the Fortieth fell back in good order to the town, where, taking advantage of hedges, fences, houses, etc., they repulsed the enemy and drove them out of town, and, at 4 o'clock P. M., resumed their former position on picket duty.

The Fortieth's loss was three killed, four wounded and ten missing, who were taken prisoners, and all afterward were exchanged and rejoined the command. The enemy's entire loss is not known. Two Captains and fifteen men killed, one Major and twelve men wounded, and thirteen prisoners fell into the hands of the Fortieth. The enemy's entire force was cavalry and two batteries of artillery. Over one hundred horses, equipped, escaped within the Union lines and were captured by other commands. The prisoners, when exchanged reported Van Dorn's entire loss in killed and wounded to be one hundred and fifty men and one hundred and twenty horses.

An incident connected with this fight is worth relating. Among the prisoners captured from the Fortieth that day was Jesse N. Orin, a Sergeant of Company B, afterward a distinguished representative for many years in the Ohio Legislature from Clinton County. The prisoners were taken before Van Dorn, and questioned by him. Sergt. Orin answered in behalf of the captives.

"What commands do you belong to, boys?" said the rebel chieftain.

"Fortieth Ohio, sir," answered Orin.

"You don't all belong to the same regiment, do you?"

"Yes, sir."

"What officer was that in the command of the forces you had in to-day's fight?"

"Capt. Matchett, of the Fortieth, sir."

"Have you got down so low that captains must command your brigades?"

"Brigades? There was no other regiment fought against you to-day but the Fortieth, and only seven companies of that, for one company was in the town as provost guard, and two companies were on the west of town, and neither of them were engaged."

"Then why in the name of thunder did not your Captain quietly surrender when my brigade of cavalry attacked them?"

"I presume, sir, the Captain's orders were to defend the picket line, as long as he could, and not to surrender."

"But, why were you not re-enforced?"

"I do not know, sir; just before we began to fall back, the Captain rode along our lines and told each company that it was evident that we were not to be re-enforced, and we could not successfully retreat over that cotton field, unless each company implicitly obeyed his commands. We all understood this; and he concentrated and retired us in the manner you saw."

"How did you boys come to be captured?"

"When our regiment had retreated about half the distance between the picket-line and the town, a column of your cavalry threatened to pass by our left, and get between us and the town, and 'gobble us all up,' and Capt. Matchett ordered me and another Sergeant, with about twenty men, to a position about three hundred yards to the left and rear of our regiment, in order to oppose that threatened





movement, with orders to hold that position at all hazards, until the regiment had retired beyond the cotton-gin, and then make our way back to town as best we could. We stayed there as ordered, but when your forces in front of the regiment were repulsed, they swept around to our position, on their retreat, and took us all in, except a few who started to run the gantlet back to town."

At this, a fine-looking officer, who was present, broke out in a loud laugh, and said: "Gen. Van Dorn, the joke is on you; you promised to show us how neatly you could take in the Yankees at Franklin, and it seems that you have been very cleverly repulsed by seven companies of infantry, commanded by a captain, with his left protected by a sergeant's squad."

At this Sergeant Orin said: "General, I would like to be permitted to say one word in your defense; that is—there is not a private in the Fortieth Ohio who would not make a good colonel, and not a non-commissioned officer who would not make a good brigadier, and as to the Captain who commanded us to-day, he could handle an army equal to Bonaparte."

"Thank you," said Van Dorn, and then, turning to the officer referred to above, he said: "How could you expect me, with my division of cavalry, to overcome a Bonaparte, his field-m Marshals, his sixty generals and 500 colonels?"

Gen. Van Dorn then asked Sergt. Orin, "How many men have you at Franklin?"

"I do not know, sir, and if I did I should decline to answer your question."

"What is the nature and extent of your fortifications there?"

"General, possibly you had better obtain that information by another reconnaissance."

"Well, Sergeant," said the General, "you'll do. When you rejoin the regiment, give my compliments to your brave comrades and the Captain, and say to him that I hope he may never be promoted."

"Captain," said he, addressing an aid, "see that these men are treated with that courtesy and respect due to brave men."

The men were then taken back and remained as prisoners only about three weeks, when they were exchanged. Their prison life was made far more agreeable to them than they expected.

In 1878, a Major of the Confederate army stopped for a few days at Greenville, Ohio, and called on Capt. Matchett, and said that he had belonged to the staff of Gen. ———, Inspector General of the Confederate army; that they had come west to look after Bragg's army, and went to Spring Hill Run about the 8th of April, 1863, and found Gen. Van Dorn a very genial and social fellow, who induced the Inspector General to go with him that day (April 10) and see how freely he would take in the Yankees at Franklin.

The Major said that all the officers agreed that they had never seen "such a fighting regiment" as the Fortieth was; and that he was free to say, that he never met with such coolness and determined bravery since. He detailed the conversation between Gen. Van Dorn and the captured Sergeant, substantially as given above, which, in the mind of the writer, confirmed the statements made by Sergeant Orin and his captured comrades, on their return from captivity.

About the 1st of May, 1863, the regiment exchanged their Prussian rifles for Springfield and Enfield rifles, which they carried until the war closed.

During the summer of 1863, the regiment were at Triune, Shelbyville, Wartrace and Tullahoma, Tenn., and participated in many skirmishes before the enemy were persuaded to give up Tullahoma and return beyond the mountains to Georgia.

On September 19, 1863, the reserve army corps of Gen. Gordon Granger (of which the Fortieth constituted a part), was stationed on the Ringgold road, to the left of the army of the Cumberland. They were attacked by a large force about the middle of the day. The Fortieth with some other regiments had been thrown forward to support the picket line. They held their position until the other regiments had retired on the main force, when they also fell back. The fight then



kept up until night. In the morning there was no enemy immediately in front of the reserve corps, and they were on the look-out with nothing to do, until the afternoon about 3 o'clock. Meantime, Gen. Granger and many of his leading officers had been drinking "commissary" to the success of all the officers and divisions of the Army of the Cumberland generally, and to the success of Gen. Gordon Granger particularly. What the result of all this might have been may be better imagined than written, had it not been for Capt. William C. Russel, Assistant Adjutant General on Gen. Granger's staff, and the hero of Chickamauga. This gallant officer, from the clouds of dust and the noise of battle from the field of Chickamauga, became satisfied that the enemy were gaining advantage over Rosecrans' forces, and that the presence of the reserve corps was required on that field. He urged his chief to give the order at once to move the corps to the field of battle, but his "chief" was as hilarious and jovial as Belshazzar was at the feast of Babylon, just before the invisible handwriting flashed upon the walls of the banquet-hall, and proposed only to obey orders, defend his front and—enjoy himself.

From 12 o'clock, Capt. Russel had been noticed, on that memorable day, in a state of silent excitement, listening and looking at the signs from the battle-field. Sometimes on horseback, sometimes on foot, one minute on an elevation or in the top of a tree, anxiously looking with his glass in the direction of the battle, and the next minute in the valley, with his face to the ground, trying to detect with the sense of hearing the progress of the conflict. He was confirmed in the belief that our troops were being beaten. His chief, always egotistical, never successful, was now useless. At 2:30 o'clock, Capt. Russel went hurriedly into the presence of his chief to again urge him to order the corps removed to the assistance of the Army of the Cumberland, but the military knowledge of the man, whatever it may have been, had given place to the joys produced by the "commissary" of the department. Capt. Russel, on leaving the presence of his chief, was heard to say: "Well, I'll do it any how; I will take the responsibility, even though they *cashier* me for it." In a moment, two orders were written, signed, "By order of Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger, W. C. Russel, Acting Adjutant General," one of which was delivered to Gen. Steadman and the other to Gen. Brannan, respectively commanding divisions in the reserve corps.

These divisions were immediately put in motion, with Steadman in the lead, on "double-quick," for the battle-field, a distance of four miles.

They passed immediately in front of the position occupied by rebel Gen. Forrest with his cavalry, then by the right wing of rebel Gen. Longstreet's force; then left and center of Gen. Thomas' command, and halted and fought on the extreme right of Gen. Thomas as they found it at 4 o'clock P. M. of that day.

For a clear understanding of that field at that time, lay a horseshoe in front of you, with the heels of the shoe next to you, and add one-fifth of the length of the shoe in projection of the right heel. The horseshoe, thus extended, is a semi-circular ridge, and on the apex the last battle-line of Chickamauga; inside the horseshoe, Gen. Thomas, his four divisions in line of battle along the inside slope of the ridge. On the outside of the horseshoe thus made is the rebel army, Longstreet extending from center to our left, and Bishop Gen. Polk from center to our right. Rossville is seven miles to the rear of Gen. Thomas. The position of the Fortieth in the morning was four miles to the left of the left heel of the horseshoe: now it is on the extreme right heel of the horseshoe. Two and three miles in front of our (the Fortieth's) present position are Gordon's Mills and Crawfish Springs.

There was the position of McCook and Crittenden's Corps this morning; now they are beaten and scattered from the field, and the rebel regiments, flushed with an easy victory over them, are now charging and recharging our right to overturn the last obstacle—the "Rock of Chickamauga."

Here Thomas and every man under him distinguished themselves. Here Capt. Russel, the hero of Chickamauga, died in a noble discharge of his duty, and,





though his name and exploits of that day are unmentioned in history, yet they are bright in the memory of his surviving comrades. Here Lieuts. Van Mater, of Company G, and B. F. Snodgrass, of Company A, both Darke County boys, were killed and left on the field of battle. Here Lieuts. Allen Smith and Topping were wounded, also Darke County boys; and here were left two officers and twenty-nine men killed. The regiment also suffered the loss of five officers and one hundred and ten men wounded, and two officers and forty-three men captured.

Our captured men were taken at near Rossville on the following Tuesday morning (Chickamauga was fought Saturday and Sunday). Company H had been placed on picket-line, and were not ordered to withdraw, through some neglect at brigade headquarters, and, early on Tuesday morning, the enemy surrounded them and took them prisoners. Among those prisoners was Second Lieut. John M. Wasson, promoted from Company G. This officer did good service at Chickamauga. He was kept in prison and at Andersonville, and suffered all the horrors of prison-life until the close of the year 1864, when he was exchanged. He twice escaped from prison, but both times was recaptured—once by the blood-hounds, and another time by a wild tribe of Indians in the western part of North Carolina, about two days' march from Knoxville, Tenn.

On the night of the 20th, our army fell back behind Missionary Ridge, at near Rossville, and on the night of the 21st, they fell back to Chattanooga, the objective point of the campaign, and the "Iron Brigade," as it was afterward known, was for a few weeks stationed at Mockeson Point. In a few weeks thereafter, they were sent to Shell Mound, Tenn., the Fortieth being stationed at Nickajack Cave, Ga., about two miles south of Shell Mound.

On the 23d day of November, 1863, at break of day, the regiment (except a small detail to guard the quarters and property of the regiment at Nickajack), started with the brigade for Chattanooga, for the purpose of rejoining the division. They traveled until 9 o'clock P. M. of that day, and were then four miles from the division. The brigade received orders to report to Maj. Gen. Geary, whose division as camped near where the Fortieth were at that time. They accordingly turned aside and encamped within the lines of Gen. Geary's Division. The next morning the whole command of Geary was put in "battle array," and through the mist and fog of a damp morning, was hurled against the rugged sides and rocky heights of Lookout Mountain.

In attacking Lookout Mountain, Gen. Geary was directed to silently pass up Lookout Creek for a distance of four miles above the point opposite Chattanooga, thence to cross the creek, and push the head of the column up the side of the mountain until it halted against the perpendicular rock that caps the summit of the mountain, and then move in line of battle by the left flank, along the side of the mountain toward Chattanooga. Two and sometimes three regiments were all that could stand in line of battle between the summit of the mountain and Lookout Creek. As fast as the line of battle was formed it would be thrown forward toward the enemy.

The Fortieth Ohio and Ninety-sixth Illinois constituted the third line of battle at the commencement of this fight, and continued so until about three-fourths of the side of the mountain had been captured. Gen. Geary's whole division (except Whittaker's brigade) belonged to Hooker's army, and had never before met the enemy in battle in the West. Whittaker's brigade were all Western men, and had learned battle at Fort Donelson, Pittsburg Landing, Perryville, Stone River and Chickamauga.

The two lines of battle in front of the Fortieth Ohio and Ninety-sixth Illinois had faltered, and were pressing the enemy rather carefully.

The "Iron Brigade" of Whittaker demanded its officers to lead them to the enemy. This demand became so urgent that the officers, regimental and line, were compelled to place themselves in front of their companies to keep the Fortieth and Ninety-sixth from running over Geary's men in front of them. The men





became more and more frantic when Capt. Matchett, in front of the left of the Fortieth, spoke to Col. Taylor in a loud voice, "Colonel! the Fortieth is spoiling for a fight; can't you let them have it?" Col. Taylor spoke to Col. Champion, of the Ninety-sixth Illinois, and said, "Colonel, I can't keep my regiment back any longer; will the Ninety-sixth go with us?" The men of the Ninety-sixth made answer, "Go in, *Granny*, we'll be with you." Then the Eastern troops were taken by surprise. The battle yell of the old "Iron Brigade" drowned the rattle of musketry in front, and reverberated in echo over Lookout Valley.

The Fortieth and Ninety-sixth, followed by the other regiments of the brigade, dashed madly past the two lines of battle and skirmish line in front of them, and charged desperately upon the foe. That charge was irresistible. The bright new flag of the Fortieth, which had been sent them by the ladies of the Episcopal Church of Greenville, Ohio, but a few days before, was seen and cheered by thousands of soldiers of the Army of the Cumberland, who lay in the valley below, as it advanced on and on, for its baptism of blood, on the rugged sides of Lookout Mountain. Gen. Grant had anxiously watched the progress of the charge through his field-glass, from Chattanooga, and was heard to say, "Magnificent;" "How that flag presses on;" "Will it never stop?" "That flag is invincible." But soon a cloud passed over the General and the valley; its ragged edges dragging along the sides of the mountain, and that bright flag and its gallant defenders were "above the clouds," sorely pressing the enemy and driving them from rock to rifle-pit, from rifle-pit to breastwork, and from breastworks back to our rear, as prisoners of war. After the fall of Lookout Mountain fronting Chattanooga had been gained, Gen. Whittaker and his staff with difficulty halted the brigade, and what had been gained was held, although the enemy, by successive charges of a fresh division, vainly strove to regain their lost stronghold.

All that evening and night, a heavy firing was kept up, by strong skirmish lines of either army. Meanwhile, Gen. Grant sent a division from the Fourteenth Corps, and the other two brigades from the reserve corps, to the position occupied by Gen. Geary, on the face of Lookout Mountain, for the purpose of making a final assault upon the enemy the next morning; but at 4 o'clock on the morning of the 25th, the enemy ceased firing, and our skirmish lines advanced without opposition. Bragg had evacuated Lookout Mountain, and the bright flag of the Fortieth was taken to its summit. "Jocund day stood tiptoe on the misty mountain top." Ere the shades of night were dispelled from the valley of the beautiful Tennessee, and as the first rays of that morning's sun fell aslant the summit of old Lookout, they were reflected back by the bright folds of the regimental flag of the Fortieth Ohio, and that grand sight on that morning was the roll-call of Grant's whole army. Though not heard by any, and only seen by soldiers then upon the sides and top of the mountain, yet their cheers and shouts of victory, as their eyes beheld that grand sight were taken up and repeated by every division of that grand army.

While the cloud of fog was dense upon the valley, the division from the Fourteenth Army Corps was withdrawn from Lookout Mountain, and secreted with the other divisions of that corps, in the trenches at the foot of Orchard Knob, where we will leave them for the present.

Among the Fortieth's loss on Lookout Mountain was the brave Maj. Acton.

On the morning of the 24th of November, Bragg's army extended from Lookout Mountain, where his extreme left rested across the valley of Chattanooga to Rossville—a town without houses in the gap at Missionary Ridge—thence, on Missionary Ridge, for a distance of about six miles, where his right rested. After his defeat at Lookout Mountain, he withdrew his line from that point to Rossville, and strengthened his line on Missionary Ridge.

The Army of the Tennessee, under Gen. W. T. Sherman, had been pressing the enemy's right for two days. On the 25th, Sherman attacked with increased

\*Nearly every soldier in the brigade called Col. Taylor, of the Fortieth Ohio, *granny*.



severity, and threatened a general engagement. In the afternoon, when the day was bright and clear, the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps, and the Reserve Corps, under Gen. Hooker, marched in solid divisions across Lookout Valley to Rossville. During this movement, Bragg withdrew a large force from his center to re-enforce his right and left. Just before Hooker arrived at Rossville, the cannons boomed the signal, which was the order to the Fourteenth Army Corps to charge the enemy's center. This grand army corps exceeded even its orders; the enemy's center was broken, and the battle of Missionary Ridge was gained. The enemy were followed, on the 26th and 27th, to Ringgold, Ga., where the campaign for 1863 ended and the army returned to winter quarters, the Fortieth returning to Nickajack Cave, Ga., where they remained until February, and where, in December and January, 135 of the Darke County boys re-enlisted as veterans, as shown by the reports in the Adjutant General's office of Ohio, as follows: Company E, 32; Company F, 27; Company G, 45; Company K, 31—Company G being the first company in the brigade to re-enlist.

Some time in the winter of 1864, the Army of the Cumberland was re-organized, and was composed of the Fourth, Fourteenth and Twentieth Army Corps, the Fortieth being a part of the Second Brigade, of the First Division of the Fourth Corps.

In February, 1864, the brigade went to Cleveland, Tenn., and encamped near Blue Springs. They were engaged in that reconnaissance in force against Dalton by Gen. Palmer, about the 22d of February, and sustained a loss of a few men wounded. On their return to Blue Springs, Companies E and G started home on veteran furlough. They returned to the command at Blue Springs April 10, 1864. Companies F and K did not leave on veteran furlough until the latter part of March. They returned to the regiment May 16, after the battle at Resaca, Ga.

The wonderful campaign against Atlanta was begun May 6 and ended September 5, 1864. During all this time, there was not a day passed that the Fortieth Regiment did not hear the whizzing of rebel bullets. In the early part of that campaign, while the regiment was commanded by Col. Taylor, Company G did distinguished service on the skirmish-line. The official report of Col. Taylor, containing the military action of the regiment from the beginning of that campaign up to July 1, 1864, is before the writer, and he is now surprised to learn of the distinguished services performed by this company, as appears from that report. The following are quotations:

" \* \* \* On the 11th (May), three companies on the left, B, G and E, were sent, under command of Capt. Matchett, to Mill Creek Gap (along the railroad), with orders to build breastworks along the crest of the hill, and hold the place at every hazard. \* \* \* In the action on the 15th, the regiment lay with the brigade, only Company G, Capt. Matchett, being deployed as skirmishers. \* \* \* On the evening of the 17th, the regiment were ordered into position at Adairville. Companies B and G were deployed as skirmishers. They readily cleared the hill in front of them of all rebel incumbrances, and we quietly bivouacked there for the night." In addition to this, the report shows that, a large portion of the time, the entire regiment was engaged as skirmishers.

Col. Taylor describes the Fortieth's operations at Resaca in the following words:

" On the 14th, I was ordered forward, being on the right of the brigade, my right conforming to the movements of Col. Gross' brigade (Third). Skirmishers were deployed, and the line moved to the crest of the hill, in front of the enemy's works. At 3 o'clock P. M., the enemy made an attack on Gen. Craft's brigade on left of Second Brigade), and, after considerable fighting, succeeded in flanking that brigade, and even turning the left of the Second Brigade. The enemy rapidly followed up his advantages, and, with hideous yells, pursued our routed force, even to the right and rear of our brigade, to the distance of half a mile. The enemy's front lines of battle were rapidly followed up by his formidable





reserve of three lines. At this critical time, the Fortieth was ordered to the rescue. I quickly changed front to the rear and right in front, and ordered the charge. We passed the left and rear of the enemy's front line of battle, confronting and charging the three lines of reserves that were following up. Though his numbers must have been at least four times that of ours, yet he disorderly broke back to his intrenchments, leaving his front line to take care of itself, which line was entertained in a very chivalrous manner by the Fourth Indiana Battery and a brigade from Hooker's (Twentieth) corps. Gen. Craft here directed me to form on the main Resaca road—both for the purpose of holding the road and capturing as many of the enemy as possible. Soon after, however, I was ordered to the hill, where our brigade was collecting. I respectfully ask that the importance of the above charge be not lightly passed over, as it undoubtedly saved the entire division."

An unfortunate affair on June 20, at Kenesaw, is described by Col. Taylor in his report, as follows :

"Late in the evening of the 20th, while the men were at supper (it being after dark), I received an order to re-enforce the Thirty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. With the left wing of the regiment (the right wing, at the time, being in the works to the rear), I moved forward for that purpose, passing by the flank to the rear of the position occupied by the Thirty-fifth Indiana. I was surprised, here, to find my regiment exposed to a severe fire from both front and rear. I ordered the men to open fire to the front, but many of them executed this order under protest, saying that the Thirty-fifth Indiana was in front of them. These men, having been detailed on the skirmish-line a few minutes before, and afterward ordered back to the regiment, had just left the Thirty-fifth in possession of the works. I ordered the regiment forward to the works, and was surprised to find them in the possession of the enemy. Their presence could not be detected until we got close to them. They then opened upon us with such warmth that the men fell back, and, momentarily, scattered. Though they fell back, many of them kept up a severe fire on the enemy, while others rejoined the remainder of the regiment in the works. I then brought up the right wing, but this time with a perfect understanding of the works before me, and, re-enforced as we were by nearly all of the left wing, we charged the works. A hand-to-hand conflict ensued for a few minutes, but we took the works and held them. Next morning, the green earth in front of us was gray with the enemy's dead. We took one officer and twenty men prisoners. My loss, however, was severe—nine killed and thirty-one wounded, and we lost in prisoners Lieut. Col. Watson and twenty men."

The Fortieth Ohio was attached to the left of Harker's brigade in that disastrous assault upon Kenesaw, June 29, 1864, in which Cols. Harker and McCook, each leading brigades, were killed. Col. Taylor, in his report, describes the action of the Fortieth on that occasion in the following words :

"On the 29th, when, in the general assault on Kenesaw, the Fortieth Regiment was ordered to the left of Harker's brigade, with directions to conform my movements to the movements of that brigade. We moved forward, exposed to the galling fire of the enemy, but moved with accuracy and precision. Harker's brigade having come to a halt, my line extended its right, adjoining Harker, and my left resting on the little brook, or Run Hollow. Within half an hour, I was ordered to the front line of works. The Fortieth Ohio was the only regiment of this brigade that covered the front line of works. My loss was ten men wounded, one mortally."

Col. Taylor closes his report as follows :

"In the sanguinary struggles and hardships endured by our army in Georgia up to this date in the campaign, I am proud to know that the Fortieth Ohio Infantry has fully sustained her part; ever willing, she has done all she was ordered to do, without hesitation or grumbling. She has not been without the sound of hostile guns since we first met the enemy on Tunnel Hill, and, with the exception of





four days during that time, we have been under fire. We have been in the trenches on the front lines more than thirty days and nights. We have built on the front line thirteen lines of breastworks, and we have lost, in all, one officer (Capt. Converse) and eleven men killed; one officer and sixty men wounded, and Lieut. Col. James Watson and twenty-one men captured."

On the 1st of July, Col. Taylor was ordered to the command of the brigade, and Capt. Matchett to the command of the regiment. These officers continued in their commands respectively, until after the fall of Atlanta.

*The Fortieth at Peach Tree Creek.*—The 18th and 19th days of July had been severe on the Fortieth. They had been constantly in front of the brigade as skirmishers. The rebels were slowly falling back from Kenesaw, and the Fortieth had been contending on our advance with their rear guard, from every hill and stream. On the morning of the 20th, the Fortieth were permitted to march in the rear of the brigade and expected to have an easy time, but how often are we doomed to disappointment. That was a day of the hardest fighting the Fortieth ever experienced.

On the morning of the 20th, Gen. Stanley ordered Gen. Craft, commanding the First Brigade, to press forward to find the enemy. At Peach Tree Creek, he found a skirmish line of the enemy who disputed his crossing. The bridge in the road crossing the creek had been fired by the enemy, and Craft's brigade had been held at bay by the enemy for some time. Gen. Stanley rode up to the front and told Craft he ought to effect a crossing without delay, that the enemy were not strong on the opposite side. Craft replied, that he was not sure of the enemy's strength, but that they were advantageously posted, and he could not cross without severe loss. Stanley then in his peculiar way of using the English language when excited, said that he had one regiment in the Second Brigade, commanded by a Captain, who could effect a crossing and he should order that regiment up, unless Craft moved forward promptly. Craft told him to bring on his regiment and try it. Stanley turned to Col. Taylor, who was standing by, and said: "Go send me Capt. Matchett and the Fortieth."

Col. Taylor came back and related to Capt. Matchett and some of the men what had taken place, and delivered Stanley's order. Capt. Matchett, with the Fortieth, immediately reported to Gen. Stanley, who was sitting on his horse at the head of the halted column, speaking in loud and unfavorable terms, and with many emphatic adjectives, about the First Brigade. Capt. Matchett said: "General, I am ordered to report to you with the Fortieth." "Yes, sir," said the General; "I want you to cross that stream and move those d—d rebels." "Have you any directions, General, as to how I shall go about that?" said the Captain. "No, sir; use your own judgment, but don't fail doing it." "Then I'll first reconnoiter," said the Captain, and immediately started and did so.

Peach Tree Creek, or that branch of it in front of the Fourth Army Corps, was a deep, still, sluggish stream, about fifteen feet wide. The First Brigade had made several unsuccessful attempts to cross the bridge, and were deployed to the left of the bridge for some distance, but had no forces on the right. In front of the First Brigade to the enemy the ground lay in its natural state and unfenced, and mostly covered with grass, alder brush and weeds. To the right of the bridge, the ground was fenced, and marshy to some extent, and covered with tall prairie grass; and, a short distance from the right of the bridge, the creek had been ditched by a deep ditch about twelve feet wide. On the bank of this ditch was a fence, and the fence now grown up thickly with bushes. Across that ditch for a distance of eighty yards was a meadow stubble freshly mown; across the meadow a corn-field in tassel, extending up to the top of the ridge and to a thick woods.

Capt. Matchett decided to make the attempt in that direction, that is, by the right of the bridge and via the corn-field. On returning from his reconnaissance, he said to Gen. Stanley, "All right, General, I will do my best." "But will you



succeed?" said the General, sharply. "We will satisfy you, General," replied the Captain. He then moved the regiment to the rear far enough to place a hill on the right of the road between him and the enemy in front of the First Brigade in order to hide his movements from the enemy. At the foot of that hill he found the bed of the old stream, dry, and with gravel bottom, leading to the ditch before spoken of, with grass along its banks high enough to conceal the movement from the enemy. The Fortieth moved in this channel until they reached the ditch bank, and then filed off in line of battle behind the bushes growing on the ditch bank. On the right of *each* company, a passage-way was hastily cut through the "fence-row bushes," and these cut bushes cast into the bottom of the ditch, and on their top sufficient rails were thrown in to enable the men to cross. Each company was enabled to cross the ditch at the same time by "right flank file left." This brought them to the meadow stubble each company in column, and the whole regiment in line of battle by "*company into line*." The regiment charged up through the corn-field up the side of the ridge until they gained the wood. Then the left of the regiment was wheeled to the left, the right acting as flankers, and in this manner they charged on the flank of the enemy who had resisted the First Brigade, and killed, captured and routed them, taking them completely by surprise. The number of prisoners captured by this movement must have nearly equaled the number of men in the Fortieth. Gen. Stanley asked Gen. Craft if he thought his brigade was strong enough to guard the prisoners that the Fortieth Regiment had captured. Stanley's division then crossed the stream, and the Fortieth was again thrown forward, and, in a short time, found the enemy in force before them. The whole Fourth Corps was then placed in line of battle on the left of the Fortieth, for the final charge.

The enemy had been found to be in force opposite the left of the Fourth Corps, and Gen. Howard, who was in command of the Fourth Corps, directed that the advance of the corps should be in the nature of a left wheel, and thinking that no serious obstacle would be found in front of the right, that part of the command was directed to advance in heavy skirmish line.

Immediately in front of the Fortieth was a low swale, 200 yards in width and one-half a mile long, and covered with a growth of low alder bushes. To the right of this was a ridge of cleared land, extending along the side of this swale, and encircling the upper end of it, in the shape of an inverted letter *f*. Two hundred yards in front of this ridge, and corresponding to its shape, was another ridge, fortified by the enemy and hidden from view by a pine thicket. On the ridge, at the upper end of the swale, the enemy also had a line of breastworks, hidden from view.

Capt. Matchett, who had examined the ground, informed Gen. Stanley as to the true state of the enemy, but Stanley thought Matchett was mistaken. They, however, made a personal reconnaissance together, but nothing whatever could be seen to indicate the presence of an enemy, as indicated by Capt. Matchett. Gen. Stanley ordered Capt. Matchett to deploy his regiment in a heavy skirmish line, and await the signal for advancing. The Captain asked permission to throw the four companies on the right in column, to act as flankers, from the fact that every man who crossed the ridge would be sacrificed. Stanley said: "You have your orders, and you had better obey them; extend your right, and with your left conform to the movements of the right of the Twenty-first Kentucky. Stanley then rode away, and soon the signal for advancing was given, and the movement commenced. Gen. Howard, who was near the right, seeing that the line of the Fortieth, though irregular, was as heavy as a line of battle, and protected by a column of flankers, directed Gen. Stanley's attention to it, and ordered it to be immediately corrected, without halting the advance. When an aid delivered this order to Capt. Matchett, he returned for answer: "Give my compliments to the General, and say that I am acting on the evidences of my own senses, and that I assume all responsibility. If I don't develop the presence of the enemy before I





reach the woods. I will then deploy the regiment, but to do so now would be to wipe it out of existence."

The Twenty-first Kentucky had gained the outskirts of a deep wood, and the Fortieth, in conforming its movements to the Twenty-first Kentucky, had passed up the swale, and within 200 yards of the upper end, when that familiar rebel yell greeted their ears, and a line of battle arose from the bed of the little stream at the edge of the woods and commenced firing. This line of battle extended in front of the whole corps. The Twenty-first Kentucky, and, in fact, the whole brigade, halted. The Fortieth could not halt on the level ground without being destroyed, nor retreat without subjecting themselves to a murderous fire from the enemy. Capt. Matchett, believing their only hope was in charging the enemy's first line of breastworks, gave that command, and the Fortieth executed it, though at a greater loss in killed than the regiment suffered in the two days' fight at Chickamauga. The enemy charged and re-charged, in front and left flank, but the order was, "Boys, we must hold this position or die right here." In this engagement, Capt. C. F. Snodgrass and Capt. J. W. Smith, both Darke County boys, distinguished themselves. The enemy, in charging down upon our left flank, were enfilading four companies on the left and gaining an advantage over them, when Capt. Smith was ordered to charge the enemy in his front, and, if possible, to close in with them; if not, to drive them back to their works. At the same time, Capt. Snodgrass was directed to face his four companies of flankers to the left, and enfilade the rebel line in front of the Twenty-first Kentucky. Capt. Smith drove the enemy back to their next line of breastworks, and Capt. Snodgrass, by his enfilading fire, cleared the line in front of the Twenty-first Kentucky. The commanding officer of the Twenty-first Kentucky, at the request of, and to the assistance of, Capt. Matchett, then advanced the right of his regiment to the left of the Fortieth Ohio. The regiment was then ordered to keep up an incessant firing.

At 5 o'clock, the regiment was relieved, with permission to bury their dead—twenty-nine killed; none captured and none wounded. On their way back to the spot where the charge began, they met Gen. Stanley and staff, and Capt. Matchett, pointing to the alders on the swale, which were completely mown down by the enemy's fire, said: "General, is not that a beautiful stubble-field?" The General, after viewing the field with wonder, said: "The Fortieth has distinguished itself to-day. No men could have done better, and I very much doubt whether any other regiment could have done so well. I wonder that so many of you are left alive. Capt. Matchett, Gen. Howard directs me to say to you that he is pleased with your action and judgment, and he is now satisfied that, had you not taken the responsibility and acted as you did, his best regiment would have been destroyed. The General witnessed your charge with interest, and applauded your success. For my part, I am proud of you and the Fortieth."

The regiment then buried their dead—their noble dead: comrades who had stood with us on many a hard-contested field, and here nobly fell, fighting in response to the command, "Men, we must hold this position or die right here. When we have said of our comrades, "They died whilst charging with their regiment," we cannot add to their praise; and the writer has not language to describe the sorrow we all felt in parting with these brave men. Thank God, their death was not in vain.

The next morning at 5 o'clock, the regiment was again ordered to relieve the regiment that had relieved us the evening before, and we were instructed to keep up a constant firing and a sharp lookout for the enemy. That morning, Capt. C. F. Snodgrass was mortally wounded while observing the movements of the enemy. His last words were, "The rebels are preparing to charge; don't carry me back, boys, until you have repulsed them." Capt. Snodgrass was shot in the thigh, the ball severing the right femoral artery; he died within five minutes after he was struck. He enlisted in 1861, as private. On the organization of the





regiment, he was appointed Sergeant of Company I. and from that position was promoted to Lieutenant and then to Captain, after which he was assigned to Company A.

When the charge of the enemy was repulsed, he was carried back and buried with military honors, on the same mound where his comrades were buried who had fallen in battle the day before.

That day, after 10 o'clock, A. M., the Fortieth Regiment fired 28,000 rounds of cartridge at the enemy: the fire was kept up constantly in order to prevent the enemy if possible, from charging. Every tree for sixty yards in front of the Fortieth was cut down by bullets. At night the position was so exposed that they could not be relieved, and they continued to defend their position during the night, keeping up a constant fire. At 2 o'clock the next morning, Capt. Matchett directed Company E to cease firing, and, with two volunteers, passed out in front of that company to within thirty steps of the enemy's line of works and overheard the enemy say that they were falling back. At 4 o'clock A. M., the firing having gradually ceased, the Fortieth advanced without serious opposition to the enemy's works and found them vacated.

That day, in order that the Fortieth might have a day of rest, it was placed on the extreme left of the Army of the Cumberland, and we advanced to the outer works which the rebels had built around Atlanta. Our position being on an elevation, with a low prairie of half a mile wide between us and the right of the Army of the Tennessee, from which position, with comparative safety, we anxiously looked down on the fight between Gens. Hood and McPherson, which resulted in the defeat of the former and the death of the latter.

The Fortieth lay at Atlanta during the siege, doing duty as any other regiment; swung around with Sherman, and fought at Jonesboro and Lovejoy, suffering a loss of three killed, seven wounded and two captured at the two places. Among the wounded was Capt. Matchett, at Levejoy. He did not leave the regiment, however, although being unable to walk for several days thereafter.

On the evening of the 5th of September, 1864, the army was ordered back to Atlanta, the objective point of the campaign being won. For a few weeks they enjoyed quiet and comfort.

When October came with her balmy days, the rebel General, Hood, tried the experiment of his wonderful flank movement toward the North, and Sherman followed as far as Gaylesville, Ala., when he determined on his "march to the sea," leaving Gen. Thomas with the Fourth Corps and the Army of Ohio to look after Hood. Considerable maneuvering was had and much marching done, when the Fourth Corps, about the 1st of November, halted at Pulaski, Tenn.

In the mean time, Lieut. Col. Watson had returned from captivity, and Maj. J. L. Reeves had gained strength sufficient to leave the field hospital, where he had tarried since June 22, and rejoined the regiment.

The three years for which the regiment was enlisted having expired, all the companies which had not re-enlisted as veterans, were mustered out, except such recruits as had from time to time been added to them. Col. Taylor, Surgeon J. N. Beech and Assistant Surgeon W. H. Matchett were mustered out about the 20th of October, and the Lieutenant Colonel and Major both declared their intention of being mustered out as soon as an opportunity could be afforded them to make up their final reports and returns as such officers.

The term of Capt. Matchett expired October 7, 1864, but the Fortieth being a favorite regiment with Gen. Stanley, he requested that officer to remain with it, and take command, promising to use his influence to have it filled by recruits and officered by its experienced men, or consolidated into a battalion of four companies.

While at Pulaski, thinking the regiment had gone into winter quarters, Maj. Reeves signified his determination to remain with the regiment, if Capt. Matchett did, or to be mustered out if Capt. Matchett was. This course would not only have



prevented the promotion of Capt. Matchett, but also that of several other worthy officers and men; and therefore Capt. Matchett, on his own demand, was mustered out on the 24th of November, 1864—after having served three years one month and seventeen days with the rank of Captain.

The rebel General, Hood, having discovered that he could do nothing to prevent Sherman's march to the sea, concluded to strike our Government a counterhit by marching his army to the lakes. The Fourth Corps was marched rapidly forward and gave him battle at Franklin, Tenn., November 30, inflicting terrible punishment upon him. Here the rebel General, Pat Cleburne, was killed while charging our lines. The writer has reason to believe that Cleburne's division fought the First Division of the Fourth Corps every day during the Atlanta campaign.

The Fortieth was not severely engaged in this battle, and suffered no loss. Gen. Stanley was severely wounded in the neck in this engagement, but did not quit the field until the enemy fell back.

That night the Fourth Corps fell back to Nashville. Here the Lieutenant Colonel and Major were mustered out, and Gen. Stanley being absent on account of wounds received at Franklin, the Fortieth was consolidated with the Fifty-first Ohio Infantry, against the protest of every officer and man in the regiment. Capt. Allen, and Lieuts. Fisher and Toner were placed under arrest by the Colonel of the Fifty-first for the manner in which they had objected to the consolidation. The Colonel of the Fifty-first ordered the regimental flag of the Fortieth to be thrown away or sent back to Ohio, but the veterans of the Fortieth signified their determination to die by that flag if necessary, but to never part with it while they remained in the service. The Colonel of the Fifty-first wisely took this hint, and after threatening and swearing much, he, like all other "men of words," did nothing. A former sutler of the Fortieth, who was then a citizen of Nashville, told the Colonel of the Fifty-first that he did not believe a single regimental officer would survive the fight unless the officers of the Fortieth were released from arrest. They were accordingly released.

On the morning of the 15th of December, 1864, Col. Wood of the Fifty-first told the veterans of the Fortieth that he should hold them accountable for their action during the coming fight; that he had borne with their insults and insubordination as long as he intended to, and that he hoped he would have no more trouble with them. Lieut. William Potter, who had been promoted to First Lieutenant from Orderly Sergeant of Company G, Fortieth Regiment, replied in these words: "Colonel, the only trouble you will have with us in this fight is to keep your old regimental flag and *flag pullers*\* up even with us." Then turning to the veterans of the Fortieth, he said: "Boys, Col. Taylor is not here, and neither is Capt. Matchett with you to lead you in this fight, but let us preserve the reputation of the old Fortieth, by showing these *flag pullers* how to go in a fight."

In the consolidation of the two regiments, the veterans of the Fortieth were made Companies E, K and H of the Fifty-first, and some recruits of the Fortieth and Fifty-first were consolidated in Company G, of the Fifty-first. This placed the Fortieth all in the left wing of the Fifty-first. The two days' fighting at Nashville demonstrated the truthfulness of Lieut. Potter's suggestion to Col. Wood, that the *flag pullers* would have trouble to go as far in the fight as the Fortieth. At one time, Col. Wood led the regiment in a charge on a rebel battery in such a way as to bring the left of his regiment squarely in front of the cannon's mouth, but without a moment's hesitation they charged and took it: meanwhile the right of the regiment had become stuck because of the warm reception they received from the rebel support to that battery. In the Fortieth there were several veterans who had been drilled in a battery, while on detached duty in that service, in 1862, and they seized upon the rebel guns and in a moment were enfilading the rebel lines right and left, and calling out to Col. Wood to bring up his "d—d flax

\*The boys of the Fortieth called the Fifty-first Regiment *flag pullers*.





pullers" in a line with them, and saying, "see where the flag of the Fortieth waves."

When Gen. Stanley returned to the Fourth Corps, he asked Col. Wood how he liked the veterans of the Fortieth. Col. Wood replied: "Oh, well, I never saw such devils to fight, but they are saucy and insubordinate." They were never insubordinate while the regiment existed as the Fortieth.

After the battle at Nashville, the Fifty-first pursued after the enemy, as far as Huntsville, Ala., thence to East Tennessee, and from there returned to Nashville, where they remained until the close of the war. In June, 1865, the regiment was ordered to Texas, the Fifty-first going as far as Victoria, and being stationed, for several weeks, at Indianola.

In October, 1865, they were mustered out and returned home, the veterans of the Fortieth bringing the flag with them, and on the 17th of November, 1865, pursuant to previous notice, they returned the flag to the ladies of Greenville. Not as they had received it, bright and beautiful to the eye, but battle-worn, bullet-riddled, the spear broken, the shaft shattered, and with many bullet rents through its colors. The orator of the day, Dr. W. C. Otwell, the Regimental Steward of the Fortieth, closed his presentation address in the following language:

"To you then, ladies, we return these colors, riddled with bullets and stained with patriots' blood, who died that we might live to enjoy the rich boon of freedom, purchased with the price of rivers of gore. With this banner, we also return the thanks of its noble defenders to those patriotic women from whose hands it came to the Fortieth."

The flag is now in the possession of Mrs. I. N. Gard, of Greenville, Ohio.

There were many noble deeds and acts of bravery done by other companies in this glorious regiment, from other counties outside of Darke County, well worthy a place in history, and which are not within the purview and scope of this work, and are, therefore, necessarily omitted, and in fact, everything here found has been too briefly stated: but we bear witness to what we have written and had it placed here; in order that the present and future generations may know that although Darke County furnished no distinguished Generals in the war to command armies, yet the deeds of valor, the acts of personal bravery of her soldiers, and the honor, ability and integrity with which they discharged their duties in many a hard-fought battle, are unsurpassed by any and second to none.

*The Forty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry* was organized and mustered into United States service at Camp Clark, Springfield, Ohio, in October, 1851. On the 14th, it moved via Cincinnati to West Virginia, and Company G, Capt. John M. Newkirk, were soon in active service on picket and on detail. After several expeditions, the regiment built winter quarters, provided comfortable shelter, drilled daily, and so passed five months. On May, 1, 1862, the command moved up to Gauley Bridge, and was brigaded with the Thirty-sixth and Forty-seventh, under Col. Crook. The brigade moved to Lewisburg, and from there the Forty-fourth and another regiment advanced to Dublin Station, on the railroad, destroying part of the track. Returning to Lewisburg, the brigade was attacked May 23, and turning upon the enemy routed them, captured three guns, many prisoners, and had the rebel dead to bury, their wounded to care for. They fell back to Meadow Bluff, and threw up works, and, August 15, set off toward the Kanawha. It was learned that a heavy body of the enemy was moving against the brigade, which had two regiments on each bank of the river. On September 9, the Forty-fourth and its associate regiment, being assailed, fell back on Gauley, and having made a stand to secure safety of the train, began their retreat. The Forty-fourth marched in the rear a day and the greater part of the night, and covered the retreat to Charleston, where the persistent foe again attacked on the 13th. The Union soldiers, greatly outnumbered, disputed the ground firmly, and finally crossing an affluent of the Kanawha, cut down the suspension bridge and cut off the pursuit. The regiment was now sent to Kentucky, and encamped for some time at Covington.





Moving to Lexington, it was placed in the Second Brigade, Second Division, of the Army of Kentucky, under Gen. Granger, and took part in various scouts and marches until December 20, when, moving to Frankfort, it was there mounted and thence saw constant duty, advancing, retreating and skirmishing, and almost living in the saddle. The regiment dismounted, accompanied Burnside on his advance into Tennessee, and shared in the rigors of the campaign; working in fortifications at Knoxville, and occupying the wet ditches day and night. The enemy were pursued eastward, and returning, the men went into camp at Strawberry Plains. January 1, it was proposed that the command re-enlist, under promise that the men would be armed and mounted as cavalry. Within four days, 550 of 600 men had accepted the proposal. Their arrival at home was an occasion of enthusiastic and joyous greeting. On March 28, 1864, the veterans with numerous recruits were organized at Camp Dennison, as the

*Eighth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry.*—Delayed in the receipt of arms and accouterments, six companies, not mounted, were ordered to West Virginia on April 26, and on May 8 the rest of the regiment was ordered to Cincinnati, to be transported to Charleston. Early on the 10th, without saddles or bridles, the men, each leading two or three horses, set out for the city, which was reached in a heavy rain, but by dark they had embarked and were on their way. At Charleston, they were supplied with carbines and saddles, and, the last of May, sent to Lewisburg over a familiar road. They were assigned to Gen. Duffie's brigade, and started with Averill on the raid to Lynchburg. On the night of the third day, camp was made in Warm Springs Valley. At Staunton, a junction was made with Hunter's command. A futile attempt was made to surprise the rebels at Buckhannon, where the Eighth remained till the 15th, when it crossed the ridge toward Lynchburg. Two companies skirmished with the enemy near Otter Creek Bridge, and, at noon next day, the enemy was met in force. The ground was disputed with uncertain result, and the rebels were forming for a charge, when infantry came up and secured the position. The night brought aid to the enemy, and by dark next day the Union army was retreating rapidly, followed closely by the rebels. At Liberty, the Eighth was ordered to re-enforce the rear guard, and, in an action with a far superior force, lost seventy-one in killed, wounded and prisoners. Subsequently, the enemy having attacked and partially despoiled the train of artillery, the Eighth dismounted and recovered the guns. They retired to White Sulphur Springs, where the regiment was divided—the Colonel proceeding with the footmen to Charleston, while the mounted men, under the Lieutenant Colonel, went to Beverly. A march of 600 miles, occupying thirty-three days, brought the mounted men temporary rest. Twice ordered to the Shenandoah, they each time returned, under counter orders, to Beverly. Four companies—A, C, H and K—were captured in August. On the morning of October 29, a body of rebels rode into camp, just as the men were falling in for roll-call. As the shots were heard at the picket line, the men formed, carbine in hand, behind the horse racks, and held the enemy temporarily in check. A hand-to-hand fight occurred, the men battling singly and in groups, and, in some cases, without weapons. Finally the rebels were routed, with a loss of seventeen killed, twenty-seven wounded and ninety-two prisoners, while the Eighth lost eight killed, twenty-five wounded and thirteen prisoners.

Scouting and skirmishing kept the men busily employed till December 1, when Col. Moore rejoined the regiment with his force. They had been in the cavalry charge at Winchester, had fought at Fisher's Hill, barely escaped capture at Cedar Creek, and followed Early on his retreat. Things put on a new aspect at this time. Five companies were well mounted, and four of these were ordered to Philippi, and 300 men of the Thirty-fourth came to replace them. On January 11, 1865, about 3 A. M., the camp was surprised; a few escaped, twenty-five were killed and wounded, most were captured. In seven days, they were hurried 163 miles, wading through streams, traveling through snow, and half starved. At



Staunton, seventy men were placed in each of a train of stock cars and conveyed to Richmond. They suffered much in Libby and Pemberton till paroled, February 15. Some returned to Clarksburg, and some were mustered out as prisoners of war in June, and in August the regiment was mustered out at Clarksburg, Va., and was paid off and discharged at Camp Dennison, Ohio.

*History of the Sixty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry.*—This regiment contained two companies of men from Darke County, under Capts. Eli Hickox and David Putnam. It was about the close of April, 1862, when the organization reported for duty at Nashville, Tenn.; was reviewed by Andrew Johnson, then Military Governor of the State, and, April 29, detailed to guard forty-two miles of the Nashville & Columbia Railroad. The companies were stationed at bridges within that distance. June 6, the regiment was ordered to report at Franklin, then to Nashville, and was then transported to Murfreesboro, where it joined three other regiments, two batteries and a body of cavalry, all under Gen. Dumont, in an expedition to McMinnville. The head of the column entered that town in twenty-eight hours after leaving Murfreesboro, and in twenty hours accomplished the feat of traveling fifty-two miles. They marched across the Cumberland Mountains to Pikeville. The ascent of the mountains is very steep, and the distance to the top shelf is three miles. The artillery doubled teams, as did the baggage trains. The road is covered with sharp stones, lying loose; at the top of the road, it is covered with fine sand to the depth of four inches. Water was scarce; trains were far to the rear; haversacks were empty, and everybody was hungry. There was a small farm where the troops camped, and among the stock was a flock of fifty sheep, which fell victims to their necessities. There was no salt, and the mutton was roasted on sticks for supper and breakfast. On Sunday morning, the column had advanced but two miles, when scouts reported the rebels at Pikeville, and nothing to eat; thereupon the column about-faced and set out on their return. Returning to Nashville, the Sixty-ninth was assigned to provost and guard duty until the close of July. Col. L. D. Campbell was appointed Provost Marshal of Nashville, and held the position till his resignation, in August. Morgan made a raid on Gallatin, and the Sixty-ninth Ohio and Eleventh Michigan, marching thither, drove out the enemy. While Bragg was engaged in his movement on Louisville, the Sixty-ninth, with other regiments, garrisoned Nashville. Duty was severe, and skirmishes were frequent. The army gathering at Nashville, the regiment moved out into camp, about five miles from the city. It was placed in Negley's division of the Fourteenth Army Corps, and advanced with the army, on December 26, upon the Franklin Pike. The vicinity of the enemy was reached on the evening of the 29th, and skirmishing was constant. On the next day, Negley marched to the right center, and, while a part of the Sixty-ninth lay in the cedars, the others were upon the skirmish line. On the 31st, it went to the front early in the morning. Companies A and D were sent out to skirmish with the rebel pickets, while the others lay upon the ground to avoid the exploding shells, and reserving their fire for infantry. About 10 A. M., the crisis approached, and the Sixty-ninth fell back some thirty rods to an open field, and fell into line with the division. The rebel lines advanced, well supported, and maintaining a heavy, deadly fire. Col. Cassily was dismounted, and Maj. Hickox took command. The men were confused, and, being exposed to the leaden sleet without returning the fire, showed unmistakable symptoms of disorganization. The Major partially restored confidence, and the line was rapidly recovering, when a shot, striking his horse, threw him heavily; and now the men stood without command, under a murderous rain of balls. They were becoming demoralized, when Col. Stanley, discovering their trouble, placed himself at their front, and, advancing them to support the other regiments, was called elsewhere. The men went in and placed themselves among the soldiers of other regiments, without regard to order. In a few minutes, Capt. Putnam began to re-form Company E, and the movement was immediately imitated by other companies. They fell back a short distance.





halted, chose Putnam to command, and then, when nearly cut off, made their way out, with little time to spare, and the division marched to the rear of the left center.

The men felt chagrin at the part taken by them. They had been under fire for hours and hardly a man had fired a half-dozen rounds. January 1, the division was held in reserve. About 3 P. M., Friday, the enemy made a desperate attack upon the Union left wing. Negley's division was then lying behind a hill, hidden from their view. The foe came on in dense lines, driving before them a part of Crittenden's corps, and had almost reached the river when the Eighth Division was ordered forward in a counter charge. The line arose, delivered their fire and began their advance. As regiment upon regiment came in sight, the enemy, astonished, halted, wavered and then began to fall back. The Sixty-ninth, now well led, pushed forward and captured a section of the celebrated New Orleans Washington Battery; Sergt. Wilson, of Company E, captured the flag. The fight ended some time after night set in, and the next day the regiment, with the division, entered Murfreesboro. Albright and Stopher, of Company E, were killed in this charge, and there were many wounded.

After the battle of Stone River, the Army of the Cumberland lay some time in camp, collecting new strength, accumulating supplies and re-organizing regiments preparatory to another advance. Re-enforcements had nearly doubled the strength of the army. Three corps were formed—the Twentieth under McCook, the Fourteenth, Thomas, and the Twenty-first, Crittenden. Negley's division was increased by the addition of a brigade of six East Tennessee regiments, and the Sixty-ninth Ohio now belonged to the Second Brigade, Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps. The Tullahoma campaign began on June 24, and the Sixty-ninth advanced southward along the Manchester pike, and, having finally reached Cowan's Station, was detached as guard to the general hospital and halted at this place until September 28, when it was sent as guard to an ammunition train of 450 wagons, en route to Bridgeport, on the Tennessee, whence it marched to Chattanooga. In the various movements of the troops, the Sixty-ninth Ohio, with the reserve corps of Gen. Granger, moved from Rossville to Chickamauga Creek, whence, under orders of Col. D. McCook, brigade commander, it marched to Reed's Bridge, which it burned, thereby securing the rear of the army from attack. After this service, the regiment marched to Rossville and was placed in charge of the division trains, thus denied a part in the battle of Chickamauga. In the afternoon of the 20th, the command was sent to the front, near Rossville, and assisted to cover the retreat of the Fourteenth Army Corps to Chattanooga. When Mission Ridge was fought, the regiment was among the first to scale the mountain, under the efficient leadership of Maj. J. J. Hanna. In this action, Lieut. J. S. Scott, Color Sergt. Jacob Wetzell, Color Corps. D. W. Leach and John Meredith, Corp. E. J. Manche, and Privates Kluger, Elsom, Sewers, Vankirk and Hefling were killed, and many wounded, a number mortally. Next morning, the command moved down to the Ringgold road and advanced along it until night; were delayed at the Little Chickamauga and another stream, awaiting the building of bridges. A number of rebel camp-fires were seen on a ridge ahead, whereupon the troops moved cautiously, and, about 8 P. M., made an attack, in which Ferguson's Battery was captured complete, without the loss of a man, and, on the 29th of December, returned to Chattanooga. The regiment veteranized March 16, 1864, and set out for Ohio on a furlough of thirty days. Most of the two Darke County companies re-entered the service, and came home looking well and hearty. Their short furlough ended, the men promptly reported at Camp Dennison, and, April 22, again started for the field, marching, for want of transportation, from Nashville to Cowan's Station, and joined the army before Buzzard's Roost on May 11. Three days later, it marched with the army through Snake Creek Gap and bivouacked for the night. The regiment marched about 3 A. M., and soon arrived in sight of the enemy's position on a range of hills, half a





mile distant. Looking across the valley, the rebels were seen busily working on their lines. Near nightfall, there was heavy skirmishing for some time.

About 5 P. M., a battery opened briskly: there were heard occasional volleys of musketry, and as night came the Sixty-ninth Ohio moved half a mile to the left and bivouacked. Skirmishing began at daylight, and shortly before 9 A. M. the command moved forward to the left oblique to the rear of a skirmish line, and at the corner of a field formed in front of this line and close upon the enemy. Two companies were deployed in advance, and shortly became actively engaged. The regiment then advanced and succeeded in driving the enemy within their works across the valley. On being relieved at 2 P. M., the men fell back into the second line. At this place, Color Sergt. John A. Compton, of K., and four others were killed, and twenty-one wounded. The enemy evacuating during the night, the regiment entered Resacca at 2 P. M., observing many rebel dead lying where they had fallen. Soon a bridge was thrown over the Oostanoula, and the troops rapidly crossing pushed on in hot pursuit through Calhoun, Adairsville, Kingston, and halted by the railroad a few days. On the morning of the 23d, the advance was renewed, and the troops halted at the banks of the Etowah, here three hundred yards wide and three feet deep. Next day, this stream was forded and the march continued till the 25th, when a spur of Altona Mountains was reached, and here the regiment remained all day, helping trains up the ascent. A march of twelve miles on the 26th brought us to the scene of Hooker's action of the previous day. The wounded lay in a house used as a hospital, and surgeons were busy amputating limbs on a table near by. Farther on, skirmishing showed the enemy near, as the men bivouacked in a wheat field where grass grew rank and luxuriant and the wheat was sparse and straggling. Moved next morning a half-mile to the left, and at noon advanced nearly a mile upon an open field and halted. About 5 P. M., two brigades directly in front engaged, and from then on till dark the firing was steady and heavy. Stragglers came back in squads, and there were indications of a repulse, while the force suffered severely. This action was denominated New Hope Church. The regiment moved up and threw up breastworks about one hundred and fifty yards in rear of the front line, which kept up a constant fire. During the night, the regiment occupied the front line, and made the works stronger while exchanging shots at 300 yards with the enemy. The enemy was engaged at Pumpkin-vine Creek and Dallas, losing five killed and nineteen wounded. Night and day the contest continued, one day in the front line, another in the second; marching forward as the rebels gave ground, and moving right or left as the swaying lines were influenced by obstacles. Awakened at dark hour of night by the crackle of the musketry and called to the lines, peering into the obscurity, awaiting a probable attack, working for hours building huge earthworks with head log and cover, the one to protect from balls, the other from the hot sun. Accustomed to the roar of artillery, the hum of balls; indifferent to the death or wound of a comrade; cooking where bullets struck in the fire, and holding their lives in their hands, such was the experience of the Sixty-ninth for a hundred days of skirmish, fortification, march and battle. Kenesaw Mountain was reached in the evening of June 14, an elevation unknown before, but soon familiar to all the country. A glass showed men and horses, guns and tents upon the mountain four miles distant. The journal of a member of the regiment furnishes the following at this point:

"Late in the evening, we advanced half a mile and found ourselves near Big Shanty, on the railroad. The Fourteenth advanced one mile; lay two nights here, labored much of the last night throwing up breastworks, which we occupied next day. Our side opened with cannon, but received no reply. Part of the regiment was on the skirmish line and one man was killed. Moved back to second line at 2 P. M. A fight of two hours' duration occurred. A part of our line charged and drove the enemy from their rifle pits. A battle began on the 18th, and lasted till 9 P. M., though rainy. Advanced the line a half-mile, swinging right around



and bringing us in line north and south. The rebels contested the ground fiercely, and were forced back, and next morning found they had fallen back to another position. In the evening, a locomotive ran down to the skirmish line, and drew several shots from cannon on the mountain. At 3:20 A. M. next day, we moved out to support the front line, which advanced upon the rebels, who obstinately held their own. Next day, firing was heavy till dark, and this continued until the 27th, when unsuccessful attacks were made with heavy loss. On July 3, the enemy retired and the regiment followed to the Chattahoochee. The next stand was made at the river, where no loss was sustained. On July 21, in the skirmishing near Atlanta, one man was killed and ten wounded, and next day the men began work for the siege of the Gate City. On the last days of summer, the regiment moved away to the right, and on the 1st of September was heavily engaged at Jonesboro, losing Lieuts. Jacob S. Pierson and Martin V. Bailey, Color Sergt. Allen L. Jobes, of D. and five men killed and thirty-six wounded, a number of them mortally, who died shortly after the fight.

The Sixty-ninth joined in the pursuit of Hood to the north, and returning to Atlanta, accompanied the corps in its march to Savannah, losing four taken prisoners and one by disease. On the lines near the city, the regiment was at the front. In the Carolina campaign the regiment was in action near Goldsboro, on March 19, 1865, in which, its last battle, the Sixty-ninth lost two killed and eight wounded. It moved to Raleigh, thence to and through Richmond, took part in the grand review at Washington, were conveyed to Louisville, Ky., and finally came the muster-out, and the final discharge at Camp Dennison of 536 men, veterans in truth, with long service upon the march, with the rifle and with the spade and soldier's awl.

*Eighty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry.*—The former of these two organizations was recruited for three months, from various parts of the State, and Darke County supplied one company under Capt. Charles Calkins. It was mustered in at Camp Chase, and reported ready for duty early in June, 1862. Orders came on the 12th, to report at Baltimore to Maj. Gen. Wool, commanding post. Three days later, the men reached that city, and the regiment, 1,024 strong, was sent into camp near by, and drill and discipline occupied their time for some weeks. Late in July, it was ordered to report at Harper's Ferry to Col. Miles, and on arrival, was stationed on Bolivar Heights, and placed under severe drill. Its time had expired, when the enemy under Jackson compelled a surrender of Harper's Ferry, and the Eighty-Seventh was included in the forces captured. When the fact became known, the men were released from parole, and were transported home from Annapolis, Md., and September 20, 1862, mustered out of service.

*The Ninety-fourth Ohio Volunteers* was organized at Camp Piqua, Miami County, under the following staff and line officers: Colonel, Joseph W. Frizell, of Greenville; Lieutenant Colonel, Stephen A. Bassford, Xenia; Major, David King, Springfield; Quartermaster, Joshua C. Horton, Piqua; B. F. Cooledge, Troy. The officers were appointed July 22, 1862, and in one month, 1,010 men had enlisted and were mustered into service. Their camp was at Upper Piqua on the farm of the late Col. John Johnson, an historic spot. Three companies from Darke County were enrolled in this regiment, of which we give the following roster:

Company.	County.	Captain.	First Lieutenant.	Second Lieutenant.
A.	Clarke.	Perry Stewart.	Hezekiah Kelshner.	A. Winger.
B.	Miami.	John C. Drury.	D. J. McLaughlin.	F. B. McNeal.
C.	Miami.	Frank W. Walton.	James A. Petticrews.	Frank A. Hardy.
D.	Miami.	R. P. Hutchins.	John W. Ford.	Andrew Wiggins.
E.	Greene.	David Steele.	John A. Beale.	Samuel Walton.
F.	Darke.	Thos. H. Workman.	W. H. Snyder.	H. A. Tomlinson.
G.	Clarke.	Chas. C. Gibson.	N. G. McConkey.	George W. Wilson.
H.	Greene.	James Kyle.	A. L. Trader.	D. P. Davidson.
I.	Darke.	Wesley Gorsuch.	G. D. Farrar.	Charles R. Moss.
K.	Darke.	Chauncey Rittle.	Samuel T. Arnold.	M. G. Maddox.





On the 28th of August, before being uniformed or supplied with camp equipage, and before a single regimental drill, the regiment was hurried to Covington, Ky., and, on their arrival immediately dispatched to Lexington. They had been armed with Enfield rifles of improved pattern, and the Colonel, by energy, had succeeded in obtaining sufficient ammunition to supply each man with three rounds, when the command took the cars for Lexington, where it arrived at 9 P. M. Saturday night, and heard of the disaster of Richmond and the peril of the hour. Col. Frizzell sought for the officer to whom he was to report, and found him incompetent, from drunkenness, to give instructions. Aided by citizens, quarters were found for the men, who bivouacked for the first time. Sunday morning found the town swarming with stragglers from the Richmond rout, each relating to whoever would hearken wild stories of death and defeat. These tales, the gloomy uncertainty, the lack of discipline in the town, all conspired to chill the ardor of the new troops and call out their fortitude. The regiment was ordered to march to Yates' Ford, on the Kentucky, fifteen miles east, on the Richmond pike, and at once began their first march over a dusty road, under a hot sun, with a limited supply along the way of water. Their destination was reached at dark, and while the Colonel was endeavoring to find a good position for defense, the men, being greatly wearied, lay down in and by the road to rest. A sudden volley fired by a rebel scouting party from the thicket skirting the road struck momentary consternation into the command, thus terribly awakening from deep slumber in the darkness; but the men were soon in line, and withdrawn to a more secure and advantageous position, having by this attack lost two men killed and six wounded. Col. Frizzell remained with his vidette near the regiment, to which he had communication by Maj. King, Capt. Drury and the Adjutant posted at intermediate distances. Aware that an enemy was near, it was little surmised that the entire army of Kirby Smith was encamped but two miles north of the ford, with the intention of crossing in the morning. Night went slowly by, and at daylight the hungry men surrounded some wagons which had arrived from Lexington, in hopes of rations which had been promised. The wagons were found loaded with ammunition, 125 rounds to a man, and three sacks of green coffee. While the coffee was being issued, parched, and breakfast was being prepared from this scanty source, the vidette reported the advance of the enemy in sight, and presently a shell plunged into the earth near by; a brief interval and then came another, and soon they fell more frequently as the battery over the stream in the woods found the position of the regiment. Col. Frizzell, from observation of the rebel movements, saw an intention to cut off his retreat, and gave orders to his Adjutant for the men to fall in and march back past a road by which they might be intercepted. The command was promptly executed, and as the rear cleared the road the enemy came trooping from it upon the pike, and opened fire upon the Miami company, under Capt. Drury, which had been detailed as rear-guard. The fire was returned and the rebels held in check, while the regiment, moving to a designated point, formed line of battle. The orders had been to "contest every foot of ground back to Lexington," and this was just what the Colonel intended to do, when orders, dated the previous evening, were brought from Gen. G. C. Smith, for the regiment to fall back to Lexington as rapidly as possible.

Their situation was critical, being twelve miles from possible support, new to the service, and an army close upon them; yet the Colonel was not wanting in energy, nor his men in confidence and courage. As the regiment moved, one after another exhausted men fell by the way and were captured by the enemy. In this way, despite the efforts of the officers, quite a number of men were taken. The regiment reached Lexington at 4 P. M., and found that the troops, beaten at Richmond, had passed through the place, on their way toward Louisville, and that all stores left behind had been destroyed. The Ninety-fourth were hungry, tired and foot-sore, in poor condition for another more trying march. It was said that the line officers deemed it best to surrender, but Col. Frizzell declared in opposition,





and obeyed the orders to continue the retreat. At daylight, a halt was made, at Versailles, for breakfast, but the men had hardly got their coffee to boil when "fall in" was passed to the commanders of companies, and the disheartening journey was resumed. There was a prevailing drouth, and water, of poor quality even, was scarce. The urgency of thirst may be gathered from the fact that the soldiers paid \$5 for a canteen full of muddy water, \$1 for a drink, and many drank from the slimy pools where horses would not. The sun shone hot from a cloudless sky, and the hard pike was deep with a dust which enveloped the person and entered the nostrils, aggravating thirst, while the blistered feet at each step seemed as if pressed upon a sheet of needles, so painful was the pressure. The march lasted from 3 A. M. till late at night. For food, the men gathered green corn from the fields near the bivouac, and partook of a few crackers issued. These discouragements caused many to straggle, and these were picked up by the pursuing enemy. Upon arriving at Louisville, they went into camp without tents, in the woods, having lost on the march 317 men, and so worn were the men that the greatest want was the opportunity to rest. The men presented a pitiable appearance, as well they might, after seven days of an initiation into military life which fell to few organizations. The command soon recovered health and spirits, the paroled men came back, and they were again ready for service. As Buell was driven in, the regiment was set to work building breastworks, and when Bragg began to fall back, it followed after as a part of Russeau's division of McCook's corps. It took a conspicuous part in the battle of Perryville, where Col. Frizzell was wounded, and the command devolved upon Lieut. Col. Bassford. In general orders, the Ninety-fourth received honorable mention, and took their accredited position as a regiment to be relied upon.

The movement upon Murfreesboro began December 26, 1862, at which date the Ninety-fourth was in the advance from Nashville, and in the battle of the 30th and 31st acted as a partial reserve. The regiment was again in the advance on Tullahoma, and was in action at Hoover's Gap; skirmished at Dug Gap, and engaged the enemy on September 19 and 20, losing two killed, twenty-two wounded, and a like number missing. At Lookout Mountain and Mission Ridge, the regiment again took a notable part, and was one of the many that made the historic charge upon the ridge. In the spring of 1864, the regiment was sent on a scout toward Dalton, to ascertain the situation of the enemy. They met and drove them through Tunnel Hill, both sides freely using artillery. An advance was desired and the infantry stopped for nothing, but pushed forward into the rebel works, where they found shelter for the night. Next day, K was deployed on the skirmish line and advance continued. Here were seen the waste of war—fields fenceless, women wailing, mills gutted and ruin everywhere. The object of the reconnaissance being gained, the force retired, and the Ninety-fourth, as rear guard, reached Ringgold about midnight. The regiment went into camp nine miles from Chattanooga, on the railroad toward Knoxville, while a part of the regiment veter-  
anized, were furloughed and returned home. The time soon went by, bringing back the veterans, accompanied by many recruits and imparting a buoyant and cheerful feeling to all.

It set out with Sherman on the Atlanta campaign, and was engaged at Rocky Face, Resaca and Kingston, resting at Carrville, May 22, at which date the casualties were thirteen killed and fifty wounded. They were familiar with the din of battle, and at Pumpkin-vine Creek, Kenesaw Mountain and the Chattahoochee River, took their share of the work and fighting. In action, July 10, twelve men were killed and forty-five wounded. Again, at Peach Tree Creek, the siege of Atlanta and the hard battle of Jonesboro, the Ninety-fourth was called upon and did its duty well. It followed Hood in his mad rush northward; marched from Atlanta to Savannah, and January 20, 1865, set out on its long, wearisome journey through the Carolinas. It was engaged at Bentonville, N. C., and encamped at Goldsboro, on the 23d of March. Again the column moved, heavily re-enforced, to sweep



upward upon Lee, overwhelming Johnson on the way, but tidings of decisive battles came to us, and the joyous, exultant troops swept rapidly toward Raleigh. The Ninety-fourth was the first infantry regiment to enter the city, and soon after set out for Washington, via Richmond and Alexandria. It passed in review before the President and the thousands of spectators that thronged the capital, and was mustered out of the service June 6, 1865, with an aggregate of 338 men, out of an enrollment of 1,010, and was paid off and discharged at Camp Chase, whence they returned to home, friends and families, and speedily became merged in the population.

*The One Hundred and Tenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry.*—The One Hundred and Tenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry was organized at Camp Piqua, Ohio, in August, 1862, and contained two companies from Darke County. The regiment was officered by Col. Keifer. Lieut. Col. Foster and Maj. Binkley, all moral men, and the line officers were men of firmness and sobriety. Marching orders were received October 19, for Parkersburg, Va. On the evening of the same day, the regiment arrived by rail at Zanesville. Here it was embarked upon steamboats and conveyed down the Muskingum to Marietta, where it arrived on the evening of the 20th, passed the night on board, and next morning, the men caught their first glance of Dixie Land beyond the Ohio. The command disembarked, entered trains and were soon taken to Parkersburg.

They drew tents the same evening, put them up and named their camp, in honor of their commander, Camp Keifer. November 3, the regiment moved to Clarksburg; remained there three weeks and then took the cars for New Creek, where it arrived about 3 A. M., next day, and for over two weeks was occupied in drill, picket and other duty. The men felt great repugnance to camp guard, and this hated duty soon "played out," and the men went where they chose. A favorite resort was Queen's View, a rocky eminence, some three hundred feet above the surroundings. The men amused themselves, tumbling rocks into the river below, to the great discomfiture of those coming for water. Mulligan's Irishmen, espying men on the rock, would cry out: "Hello, phwat regiment are yez?" If the reply was, "One Hundred and Tenth Ohio," they beat a hasty retreat. The rock-tumbling continued until an order was read on parade to arrest the first man seen on the rock. December 13, the regiment marched by way of Burlington and Petersburg to Moorfield. "At the close of the first day, the boys, being desirous of writing and desks being scarce, went to a neighboring farmhouse and returned with a box which was found to be filled with honey. It was dark, and they did not want to carry it back, so some of the men had honey and hard tack the rest of the march." Part of the regiment was sent toward Winchester, and the remainder with other forces toward Romney. The detachment was hurried through, and indignantly characterized the journey as "an infernal forced march." The main body reached Winchester a week later, where the regiment was placed in the First Brigade, Second Division, Eighth Army Corps, while A and D were detailed as provost guards. A round of scout, raid, drill and other duty occupied the time during the winter. A party sent to Front Royal captured supplies; another engaged in like work dispersed a party of rebels at Summit Point, and in May the regiment moved to New Market and back on a species of marching drill. On the 13th of June, the regiment was moved out to Kernstown, and engaged Lee's advance. This was the first time the regiment was under fire, but it fought bravely, disputing every foot of ground against far superior numbers. On the morning of the 14th, the command was posted in a light breastwork, about three-fourths of a mile in front of the main defenses. The day wore away, and in the afternoon a crash of artillery and a rain of projectiles announced the rebel onset. Twenty-six cannon were directed upon this thin line for a brief period, and then came the serried ranks of infantry moving in fine array upon the outworks. The regiment held its ground till the enemy were near, and then fell back. At night it attempted to retreat farther, and, meeting the enemy, a running fight of two hours





issued, during which it cut its way through and moved to Harper's Ferry. It encamped on Maryland Heights a short time, and then made its way to Frederick City, Md., where it was assigned to the Second Brigade, Third Division, Third Army Corps, Army of the Potomac. It took part in the pursuit of Lee through Williamsport, London and Upperville to Manassas Gap, there skirmished, and, finally, August 1, reached the Rappahannock, at Fox's Ford. Two weeks elapsed, when orders came to proceed to New York, and the cars were taken for Alexandria and thence by water on the steamship Mississippi to their destination. The camp was located for a time on Governor's Island, whence they moved to South Brooklyn and encamped in Carroll Park, where much kindness and many favors were received from the citizens. Early in September, the regiment was ordered back to the Ford, and marched in charge of an ammunition train from there to Culpepper, Va., where it remained quietly till October 10, when it was ordered under arms in anticipation of an attack, and stood to arms through the night; and next day, crossing the Hazel and the Rappahannock, moved into the front line near the latter-named stream. A month went by, and November 7, the One Hundred and Tenth crossed the river, exchanged shots with the enemy, and, the day following, made a scout in the morning and took some forty prisoners.

Moving during the day somewhat to the front of Brandy Station, the regiment was made the target for the rebel artillery, but advancing, was one of the first to enter the position from which the rebels were driven. Subsequently four companies were detailed as guards to trains, and the others, being engaged at Locust Grove, lost five killed and twenty wounded. The united regiment, returning to the station December 1, went into winter quarters. In March, 1864, the One Hundred and Tenth became part of the Second Brigade, Third Division, Sixth Artillery Corps, and May 4 crossed the Rapidan at Germania Ford, and on the day following occupied a position on the extreme National right at the Wilderness. Preceded by a lively skirmish, the regiment, charging, drove the enemy within their works, held the ground till after dark, and fell back by reason of deficiency of ammunition. Maj. William S. McElwaine was killed and six officers were wounded; eighteen men were killed, eighty-two wounded and eleven were missing. May 6, the regiment held the second line under fire of artillery, and at dark the defeat of troops on the right compelled a retrograde movement for about a mile, when a halt was made for a day, and at night the retreat was continued through Chancellorsville to the vicinity of Spottsylvania Court House, where works were thrown up and skirmishing done until May 14, when it marched toward Spottsylvania, forded Nye River after dark, and took possession of works from which the enemy had been driven.

Several reconnaissances were made, the enemy was frequently encountered, and the regiment, moving via Guinea and Chesterfield Stations, crossed the Pamunky and threw up breastworks. The One Hundred and Tenth was engaged June 1 at Cold Harbor, and on the 3d advanced in the front line upon the massive rebel works, and when the line halted was ordered to push forward, and for two long hours held an exposed position, when ordered to retire. On this day, the last to so many in the assault, the regiment lost five killed and thirty-four wounded. Under orders the regiment left the works, crossed the Chickahominy, passed to Winona Landing, was transported to Point of Rocks and marched to Bermuda Hundred. On the evening of June 19, the Appomattox was crossed, and the vicinity of Petersburg was reached. Preceded by a day's rest, the regiment marched to the Norfolk & Petersburg Railroad, advanced upon the enemy, drove in the skirmish line, and, some days later, marched to the Petersburg & Weldon Railroad. On July 2, it returned to its post near Petersburg, then embarked at City Point for Baltimore, where it arrived on the 8th, and was taken on the cars to Monocacy Junction. It took post on the south side of the river, and advanced in the face of a heavy fire of cannon and rifles from all directions. Numbers threatened destruction, and the line fell back to Ellicott's Mills at noon





of July 10. In this battle four were killed, seventy-four were wounded, and fifty-two were missing. The regiment proceeded next day to Baltimore, thence, on the 14th, by rail to Washington; on the 15th, marched again, forded the Potomac near Edwards' Ferry, and, passing Snicker's Gap to the Shenandoah, skirmished with the enemy. Soon after, the regiment returned to Washington. A few days later, march was resumed, and after moving from point to point they are seen on the morning of August 10 passing through Charleston, Newton, Middletown, and two days later arrived at Cedar Creek. Several skirmishes followed, and, August 16, they were placed in charge of a train proceeding to Charlestown. The regiment was driven to Bolivar Heights, returned to Charlestown, and on the 29th in turn attacked and drove the enemy. It marched, September 3, to Clifton Farm, and threw up works. Two weeks later, it crossed the Opequan, bore prominent, honorable part in the battle of Winchester, where it thrice charged, and was one of the first to reach the heights. It joined in the pursuit of the enemy, overtook and engaged them at Fisher's Hill, and there captured four guns and a hundred prisoners. Continuing the pursuit to Mount Crawford it then wheeled about and marched back to Harper's Ferry. October 6, it moved to Strasburg, and thence to the neighborhood of Front Royal, from which place it moved to Ashby's Gap, and almost immediately returning went into camp, on Cedar Creek. When the Eighth and Nineteenth Corps were surprised by Early on the morning of the 19th of October, the One Hundred and Tenth was posted in the front line of the Sixth Corps, formed to check disaster and hold the enemy at bay. Continually flanked, stand after stand was made, until a fresh formation being made, a daring, desperate charge retrieved the day, and drove the rebels in headlong rout. No regiment on that eventful day took more active part than did the One Hundred and Tenth. Two officers were wounded, one mortally; five men were killed, twenty-seven were wounded, and an officer and one private were missing. At night the men occupied the camp whence the storm of battle had driven them, vainly resisting, in the morning, and here they remained until November 9, when they went into winter quarters near Kenstown.

They broke camp December 3, marched to Stebbins' Station, where cars were taken for Washington, whence by steamer, they were transported to City Point; thence by rail at midnight of the 6th, and they were at the old front once more. They were located near the Weldon Railroad, and with prospects of a permanent stay, proceeded to erect substantial winter quarters. They moved February 9, 1865, to a position on the line between Fords and Fisher, and again put up winter quarters and rested about six weeks. On March 25, the brigade was called early to arms, and, line being formed, an advance was made upon the entrenched picket line, which proved too strong, and a check was experienced; again the men advance with a desperate bravery that would not be denied, and despite the deadly fire met the works were carried, and a large number of prisoners were taken. A week passed away; upon the National side in great preparations, while the rebels with few but devoted men stood defiantly behind works themselves almost impassable. On the morning of April 2, the lines were again formed for assault, and just before daybreak the Sixth Corps marched out and swept upon the entrenched lines in their front, carrying all before them and capturing many prisoners and guns.

The regiment joined in the subsequent pursuit, aiding to rout the enemy at Saylor's Creek, and following on until the final surrender at Appomattox. The command then marched to Burksville Junction, and, at a presentation of captured colors made to Gen. Meade on the 17th, the One Hundred and Tenth was found to have taken more than any other regiment in the corps, and in consequence was selected as guard of honor to convey them to the General's headquarters. The regiment marched to Richmond, was reviewed by Halleck, marched to Washington and reviewed by the President at the White House. It was finally mustered out at the National Capital, June 25, 1865, and was discharged at Tod Barracks,



Columbus, having seen an arduous soldierly service in march and battle-field. It was in twenty-one engagements, and sustained a loss in killed, wounded and missing, of 795 men. It entered the service with but 797 men, received 625 recruits, and at the final muster-out 627 were discharged. These figures show the character of the men for bravery, and how dearly they bought their enviable reputation on a score of fields. It seemed the fortune of some organizations to be called upon in the most perilous times and thrown forward as a forlorn hope: it was honorable though deadly, and inscribed a record of which the living may well be proud.

*The Eighth Ohio Independent Battery* was recruited in the counties of Darke, Miami and Montgomery, and organized at Camp Dennison, Ohio, March 10, 1862. It was soon ordered to Benton Barracks, St. Louis, Mo., and on its arrival reported to Gen. Halleck, Commandant. The battery did not go into quarters, but was at once sent on board of transports and taken down the river, under orders to report to Gen. Grant at Savannah, on the Tennessee. It reached its destination March 25, and, without disembarking, moved up the river to Pittsburg Landing, where it reported to Gen. Sherman and went into camp near the landing, where it remained until the beginning of the battle of Shiloh, on the 6th of April. The battery, during the two-days fight, was in Sherman's division, and several times came into close quarters with the enemy, on Sunday morning especially, the rebels charging in mass down their skirmish line within a few paces of the guns. The battery lost in killed Sergt. Leonard Ullery, of Greenville, and three men wounded.

The battery moved with the brigade of Gen. Lew Wallace, of the Second Division, in the advance upon Corinth, and was posted upon the extreme right of the division. On the march by day and busily erecting works by night, it had advanced to within two miles of Corinth when the evacuation was made known, when it accompanied the brigade into the town.

It rested but three hours when ordered to proceed with the column of Gen. Grant to Memphis, Tenn., where it reported June 17, and remained six months, being occasionally called upon to accompany expeditions and scouts about the country. On December 20, it set out with the command of Gen. Sherman for Vicksburg, Miss., and, a week later, took part in the sanguinary engagement at Chickasaw Bayou. It was critically situated for several days, during which it was exposed to the guns of the enemy, but, January 1, 1863, it retreated with the army to the transports, which made their way to the Mississippi. On January 6, the battery formed part of the force sent against Arkansas Post, and contributed prominently to that brilliant success of the National arms. On the morning of January 26, 1863, a section of the Eighth, under command of Lieut. James F. Putnam, was embarked on one of the boats constituting the fleet forming an expedition up the Yazoo. After proceeding up the stream from the Mississippi about seven miles, the boat stopped, and about 3 P. M., Lieut. Putnam received orders from Gen. M. L. Smith to bring all ashore, which was promptly done. Two days' operations were taken, and at 9 A. M. next morning the section was in motion. The route lay directly across the plantation of Sidney Johnston, whose fine mansion was reduced to ashes. A low, barren tract of land was entered upon; roads were almost impassable. A general halt was made about noon, and the enemy were found to be disputing progress. After an interval of about two hours, Gen. Smith sent back for the guns to shell the position of the hostile forces. Command was given and the artillery was rapidly advanced about two miles, when the rebels were found well posted upon a range of high hills covered with a dense growth of trees and underbrush, at the bottom of which ran a deep bayou.

The section advanced about two hundred yards in an open field, planted the guns about a mile from the enemy and opened with shell, and the first fire caused them to move farther up the hill. The guns then advanced about three hundred yards farther and again opened fire. A little after dark, the section was relieved by a Wisconsin battery. At daylight Sunday morning, Putnam was ordered to





advance his pieces to the front of the center division, where the firing was deafening, and there to silence a battery playing heavily on our infantry. This was soon done, but the section continued to work the guns all day, under fire, until dark, when, having fired three hundred rounds, the ammunition gave out and a gun was ordered to be fired every fifteen minutes during the night. The men were now tired, hungry and without cartridges, and were relieved by the First Illinois Battery and secured needed rest. Next day, the chests were filled, the men fed, and the section advanced briskly to the front, but firing was light. About 3 P. M. the guns were ordered to the left to cover an attempt by infantry to ford the bayou and storm the position. The Sixth Missouri crossed under a deadly fire and pressed forward till checked by the rebel works, too high to scale, and soon retired in good order. The enemy was now receiving re-enforcements, and the command was ordered to the transports.

In the campaign against Vicksburg, the Eighth assisted in the battles of Grand Gulf, Black River Bridge, Raymond, Champion Hill and in the rear of Vicksburg. For service rendered, it received the special thanks of Gens. Grant and Sherman. It operated on the extreme right of the Union position in Steele's division, Fifteenth Army Corps, and used thirty-two-pound Parrott guns, the heaviest pieces on the line.

Vicksburg having surrendered, the Eighth was sent to Jackson to help in the movement against Johnson; it then returned to the former city, went into barracks and remained till December, 1863. It went with Gen. Sherman on the expedition to Meridian, and, on its return, was placed on duty in the city, where it remained until the spring of 1864, when the command was veteranized and visited their homes. They set out on their return on April 4, having recruited 118 men for the battery. Occasional expeditions occupied the Eighth until December 22, 1864, when it moved with an expedition to the central part of the State to destroy the Central Mississippi Railroad, and thereby hinder the re-enforcement of Gen. Hood, who was then in full retreat from his ill-advised march on Nashville. Forty miles of track, three locomotives and forty cars, loaded with rebel cotton and corn, were destroyed. The enemy were found in force at the Black River Bridge, and, being assailed, were driven from strong stockades and the bridge burned. The battery made its way back to Yazoo City and Vicksburg. At Yazoo City, the enemy had closed in and nearly surrounded it when the river was crossed and it moved down the opposite bank, being followed and under fire four miles. The Eighth Battery remained at Vicksburg until May 20, 1865, at which time it was ordered to Natchez, where it performed garrison duty until the last of June. Again it was sent to Vicksburg and employed on provost duty up to the last of July, when it was ordered to Camp Dennison, Ohio, and, at that camp, mustered out of service August 9, 1865.

Thus briefly have we outlined the movements, and placed on record the heroic actions, of organizations which, from the larger number of Darke County soldiers enrolled in them, presented the strongest claims to detailed notice.

It will be seen that the county had representatives in all branches of the service and upon every notable battle-field of the war. Their record is stainless, and in many adverse situations they bore themselves with honor. It is easy to eulogize, but it is seldom that it has worthier theme.

Fifteen years have elapsed since the men came home bronzed and bearded; many of them in middle age constitute the best citizens of the county, and many are enfeebled by the exertions made in their early manhood, but few are the recipients of a nation's bounty.

How many have fallen in battle, in hospital, by ball and disease, and how many have been "mustered out" since by death.

"On fame's eternal camping-ground  
Their silent tents are spread,  
And glory guards with solemn round  
The bivouac of the dead."





## PATTERSON TOWNSHIP.

To the northeast and in close proximity to the site of old Fort Loramie, and bounded north and east by parts of Mercer, Auglaize and Shelby, is situated Patterson Township, a part of Darke County devoted with good results to the interests of agriculture.

Its history is a record of individual exertion. Orchards and groves have been made to alternate with fields of corn and wheat. Much of the olden time yet remains in the fields of woodland, tracts of the original forest, and the work of reconstruction still proceeds. Annually, the area of woodland is diminished; the timber, however, is no more gathered in windrows, and the settlers are no longer called to log-rollings. A chopper or two, felling the trees carefully, cords the wood for the home fire or the city market, but the smaller branches feed the element that once consumed the finest and most valuable of timber. Much of the lands of Patterson are the depository of the golden seed, whence the landscape is clothed in summer green, and granaries later filled with corn and wheat.

It is strictly an agricultural section, although its citizens were not inferior in soldierly ability during the momentous years of the civil war. Its territory earlier formed the northern portion of Wayne Township, and, while so constituted, the first settlement was made in 1827 by Isaac Finkbone, and upon the adjacent section a man named Philip Pitzenberger erected a cabin, and, clearing a few acres, lived for a time upon the land as a squatter. The location of these two pioneer clearings was Sections 32 and 33.

The township was formed in 1841, and its original boundary is described as "commencing at the east line of the county, at the southeast corner of Section 33, Township 11 north, Range 4 east; thence west to the southwest corner of Section 33, Township 12 north, Range 3 east (the east line of York Township); thence north to the county line; thence following the county line to the northeast corner of the county; thence south to the place of beginning."

A portion of the township was taken in 1848, to complete the area of Mercer County, and the county line ceased to be identical with that of the Greenville treaty.

Patterson was still farther limited in territory during the same year, by a transfer to Wabash Township of Sections 2, 11, 14 and 23, of Township 12 north, Range 3 east.

The population in 1850 was 319, and this had increased twenty years later to 978. Soon after the formation of the township, a schoolhouse was erected of the old log pattern on Section 32, and a man named A. L. Wilson was engaged as the first schoolmaster. Judgment may be passed upon the interest attached to education by the knowledge of the fact that of the 319 inhabitants of 1850, there were but a score of persons over twenty years of age who could neither read nor write. Nine years subsequent to its formation, Patterson's real estate was valued at \$49,865. There were 57 improved farms, upon which there were 1,624 acres of improved lands and 4,028 of unimproved. The cash value of the farms was \$48,470; of farming implements, \$2,274; and of stock, \$7,883. Upon the farms were 127 horses, 136 cows, 10 yoke of oxen, 331 sheep, and 672 swine. There had been raised, in 1849, 4,305 bushels of wheat, some rye, 5,225 bushels of corn, and 1,292 bushels of oats. The pasturage and the industry are shown by the statement of 7,016 pounds of butter made. Such is a passing glimpse at a township whose present status establishes a continued and permanent progress from 1840, when there were scarcely a dozen inhabitants in the region at a time, not even midway to the present. Its future is assured, since in the wealth of the soil is found the basis of all real and substantial strength, whose perpetuity is secured by intellectual culture and physical exercise.



Turn we to note in brief a few facts pertaining to the initiatory settlement and concurrent events, with a further glance at consequent social progress.

The administration of justice in minor courts was a feature of the early day. A suit was brought in Patterson by Isaac Finkbone against Reason R. Miller upon a book account kept by the latter for the former. In the book all the leaves containing credits in favor of Finkbone had disappeared. James Patterson acted as Constable. The case was tried before William J. English, the first Justice of the Peace in the township, and interest attaches from the circumstance that this was the first resort to legal tribunal for redress of grievances in the neighborhood. The defense employed James Brandon as counsel, who won the case on good legal ground, though his client was morally in error.

The Millers became obnoxious to the community, and it is said that their habitation was destroyed, and they themselves finally disappeared from this vicinity.

The advantage of a country store to a rural community and the chance of a livelihood by carrying on business in such a place was first understood by Joseph Vanky, who opened a grocery in Woodland a short time after it was laid out. Through the efforts of Dr. S. A. Greer, one of the oldest and most influential residents, a post office was established at this same place some time before the civil war. It was kept in his house, which stands a half-mile south of Woodland. It was removed to the Childers' farmhouse, Mr. Childers being appointed Postmaster, and a year and a half later was brought back to Dr. Greer's, and Abner Clark became Postmaster. The office was temporarily discontinued until the spring of 1879, when Willow Dell Office was created and located at Woodland, with John C. Schilling, Postmaster.

Among the first township officers may be named Dr. Greer, Richard Mendenhall, John Puterbaugh, Samuel Day, James Davidson, James Patterson, Anthony Coble, John Deweere and Robert Brandon. Of those oldest settlers who have died may be mentioned John Day, J. P. Puterbaugh, J. Davidson, S. Day and R. Mendenhall. William Russel came to Piqua from North Carolina, and moved into Patterson Township in 1834 or 1835, and settled on forty acres of Section 28. He had a son Joseph, now deceased, and the place is now owned by John Piquenot. Thomas Mendenhall moved in from Miami County in 1835 or 1836, and located near the northwest corner of the township. Arphaxed Julian, of Shelby County, settled in the west part of the township. James Patterson, Sr., father of him who gave his name to the section, came to Ohio in 1817 from Westmoreland County, Penn., made a brief stay at Lebanon, Warren County, then came to Union, and a year later entered 160 acres south of Webster, on the Stillwater. His wife died in 1826, and, selling his land, he went back to Warren County, and thence returned to what is now known as Patterson Township, where he entered eighty acres southeast of Woodland, in Section 28, Town 11, Range 4 east, being the east half of the northeast quarter. He died on this farm in 1855, at the age of fifty-six years. His first marriage was to Polly McIntyre, his second to Catharine Rudy. There were fourteen children in the two families. A son, James Patterson, is owner of 280 acres in Sections 22 and 28, adjoining the Shelby County line, is a leading citizen, and has been Justice of the Peace for a number of years.

The land in Patterson was entered principally in small tracts of forty and eighty acres, but there have been among the settlers large landholders. John Deweere has 600 acres after having disposed of as much in farms to his children. Nicholas Flinney has about 500; J. Patterson, having sold 120, has 280 acres; Peter Shields has 480; Hamilton Coble has 180; Anthony Coble has disposed of about 600 acres, and has 200 left; Henry Starke has 400 acres. Seven hundred and fourteen acres was entered by one party, and John Wood, of Chillicothe, entered an entire section.

The southern part of Patterson is rolling, and much of the soil is light clay. The timber is beech, sugar maple and oak. The northern part is a darker and





stronger soil, bearing more of lime, sycamore and walnut. There is moist, cold land in the north, which is rapidly being improved by drainage. The hamlet of Woodland is on the watershed, the slope being southward toward the Stillwater, and northward into Mercer County. The village school is a short way south of the place, and J. B. Martin, the present teacher, has an average attendance of about thirty pupils. There are seven school districts, having six frame houses and one of brick.

No railroads traverse the township. It contains three churches. The Lutheran, in Woodland, built in 1865, with a parsonage. The first residence for the minister was a log house, erected in 1868, the present is a frame. The first preacher was Rev. Shaffer, followed by Rev. Framer, Rev. Suter, and he by the present pastor, Rev. Leiderman. A Sabbath school, held during the summer, is largely attended. The Pine Church (Christian), is located two and a half miles north of Woodland, on the Berlin pike, in the Coble settlement. The house was erected in 1863. Rev. Richard Brandon was the first minister, succeeded by Abner Long, and he by Rev. Butts. Preaching is held once a month. The membership has been as high as forty. The Christians are now engaged in building a church in the Speelman settlement, on the northeast quarter of Section 25, Range 3. A congregation and Sabbath school are established in that neighborhood. Meetings are held at the house of John Blotner, and in the schoolhouse on the farm of A. Mendenhall, part of the southwest quarter of Section 24. Services and Sabbath school are largely attended. The people of Pleasant Ridge and vicinity, belonging to the United Brethren, have Sabbath school in the house on the northeast corner of the farm of John Long. Church services are held once in three weeks. About thirty pupils attend the school, of which Joseph Wolf is the Superintendent. The Christian denomination held religious services at Grange Hall (formerly a schoolhouse), and their Sabbath school is superintended by W. W. Richardson.

The Patrons of Husbandry have an organization in this township, established in 1876, with a membership of about forty. Mr. Richardson, above named, was the first Master.

The present Township Trustees are William Hawk, David Speelman and J. M. Simon. The Township Clerk is F. P. Hawk. Merchandise is sold by J. C. Shilling and F. P. Hawk, in a building erected for the purpose, some twelve years ago, by G. B. Litman, the first storekeeper therein and the present owner of the premises. About eighteen years ago, a blacksmith, named Henry Howshilt, located in the township and still pursues his useful and laborious calling.

During the war for the Union, the people of Patterson were prompt and patriotic, their quota was speedily raised and the draft, obnoxious and dreaded, had little influence with them. Although late of settlement and remote from towns, the present of Patterson is not without much of interest, and the time approaches when it will stand well among the leading townships of the county.

### WABASH TOWNSHIP.

The township is located upon the north line of Darke County, being the third east from the Indiana line. It is in Township 12, Range 3 east, with Sections 1, 12, 13 and 24 of Township 14, Range 2 east. Formerly, it extended two miles farther north to the old Indiana boundary line running from Fort Recovery to Fort Loramie. The reduction in area was caused by the assignment of this and other lands of Darke to Mercer, on the formation of Anglaize. It is situated upon an elevated plateau or table land, being nearly 700 feet above Cincinnati. The north part of the township has a deep, dark, loamy soil, well adapted to raising corn and grain. The south part is a light soil, underlaid with a stiff clay subsoil, producing heavy crops of wheat and other grains. Forty-six bushels of wheat to an acre were raised in the year 1879. The township is well calculated for stock raising.





Originally, a sturdy growth of timber covered every acre, but now about two thirds of the extent is cleared—the greater part of which is cultivated. A good deal of tile has been put down, and, though level and apparently low, the drainage is sufficient for successful culture except in unusually wet seasons. Attention is beginning to be paid to the improvement of stock. Mr. John Dodds has taken especial interest in this particular, and as a result, it will not be many years before the farmers of Wabash will be of the foremost in the county as stock-raisers. The farm of Mr. Dodds lies partly in Allen, and comprises about 500 acres, with good buildings and the machinery now in use. Originally the farms in this township were large, much of the land being entered in quarter, third and half sections. William A. Davison and Nimrod Ross, brothers-in-law, in the spring of 1831, bought together the west half of the southwest quarter, Section 12, the east half of southeast quarter, Section 11, the northwest quarter and west half of northeast quarter of Section 12, and sold this body of land on October 23 following, to Harmonious Shook for \$1,800. In accord with the results of land ownership in the county, successive sales have been made and a number of good farms have been formed from this tract. It is reported that the first settlement of Wabash Township was in 1832, and Jesse Hill is spoken of as the pioneer. He was followed by Isaac Finkbone, Harmon, Henry, Peter and Elijah Shook, A. D. Birt, J. M. Houston, Samuel Hays and Justin Skinner. The Shooks and Birt were from Green County, Ohio, Houston and Hays from Warren County, Ohio, and Skinner from New York. The township was organized in 1840 with sixteen voters within its limits—all of whom voted the same ticket in the exciting election of that year. The pioneer Justice of the Peace was Elijah Shook, who held that position twenty-one consecutive years, and until his demise. J. M. Houston was the first Township Clerk and the first Postmaster. At the time of its organization but one road was established within its limits, and that one was nothing else than a bridge path. In 1841, what is known as the Greenville and Celina road was surveyed by John Devor, Sr., and established and opened soon after.

The early settlers had their full share of hardships, privations and adventures. Mills were distant, roads almost impassable, and often the settler, not so very hard after all, was placed on short allowance for bread until the two or three days' trip to the mill could be made. Game was abundant, and the trusty rifle never failed to keep the table supplied with choice venison or wild turkey; indeed no one thought of going even to a neighbor's house without his rifle or shot-gun. Much of the land being owned by non-residents, the actual settlers often called upon the pioneers to assist in finding them lands and corners. Foremost among the experts of this business were Isaac Finkbone and J. M. Houston—either of whom could find any section line or corner within a radius of seven miles from his home.

Working bees were very common. Among these were house-raising, log-rollings, rail-makings, etc., among the men, and quiltings and comfort-knotting among the women. At these gatherings, everybody within five miles was invited, and invariably went; and the amount of work accomplished would surprise the present generation. Ten to fifteen acres were often rolled and log-heaps fired during the same day. Large log houses were raised and roofed, and sometimes floored, in a day. Often would five to seven thousand rails be made during a day by the men, while the women would finish one or two quilts; and most of the night was then given to the merry dance, then trudging homeward through water and mud at early dawn, or, perhaps, if desirous of putting on style, some stalwart swain having brought along his horse, would take his ladylove on behind him to traverse the woods, parting the brush and leaping logs until arrived at home.

The road surveyed by John Devor, in 1841, soon became the favorite route of travel between Greenville and Celina. As the counties of Darke and Mercer were in the same judicial district, and as the only mode of travel was on horseback, at the times of court at either Greenville or Celina, squads of lawyers could be seen wending their way, single file, to attend the sessions. The residence of J.



M. Houston was midway between the two towns, and it became a regular stopping place for dinner. If the path was good, the time was good; but more frequently the trip took two days, and this house was the lodgings for the night. Among these pioneer legal lights were Judges Haines and Wilson, and Messrs. Bell, Dempsey and Knox. Those living no doubt recollect the genial hospitality, the corn bread, fat venison, social chat, and last—not least—the ingenious contrivance for ladding fifteen to twenty persons in a log cabin in size 18x22 feet. Squire Houston has been in public life in Warren County for many years, and has taken great interest in public affairs. As at this time there was no mail route, he availed himself of the lawyers' presence to "post up," and converse was often maintained till far into the night. Of those present at the organization, and voting at the first election, but one remains—Orrin Skinner. Thomas Birt is the oldest resident, but was not twenty-one at that time. The descendants of the Shook and Houston families are yet living in the township, and enjoying the fruits of their early hardships and toil, and many a tale of the early day may be heard among them. There are six school districts in Wabash Township, and as many brick school-houses, ranging in value from \$800 to \$1,200 each. The interest taken in educational matters, and the liberal provision made for schools, augurs well for the future intellectual status of Wabash. The first schoolhouse was built in the spring of 1844, in the E. S. Shook neighborhood, on Section 13. The first teacher in this house was Elijah Raines, who came from Greene County. The first church was the Methodist Episcopal, built of logs, in 1844, in the Shook settlement. A second building, of the same material, was built in the fall of 1848, in the same locality. There was no formal dedication of the former, and it is a matter of doubt whether there was to the latter; but services were occasionally held in it by Rev. Harmount.

In 1870, a frame church was erected, the third in this place; and this was duly consecrated by Rev. Wycke. During the spring of 1876, the erection of a meeting-house was contracted for by A. R. Catterell, at North Star. On its completion, it was dedicated by Rev. R. D. Oldfield, assisted by Rev. T. D. Howe. This was during the time when Rev. M. Omerod was on the Dawn Circuit. There is a Christian Church in what is called the Holsapple settlement, on the Wabash, north of the center of Section 12, about two and one-half miles from North Star. It is a frame, and was built in 1871.

In the line of manufacture there are two tile factories, one operated by Gilbert & Trissell, formerly by Harvey Burns and Benjamin Gilbert, and the other by Ephraim Trissell and Alvin Jones. A saw-mill was erected at North Star in 1852, by John and David Trissell. To this mill, grist works were added in 1858 by Stephen J. Houston. The property is now owned by Andrew Alexander. Another mill stood a half-mile east of North Star. It was built by David Trissell and was burned down in 1873. The establishment of mail routes gave employment to Freeman Whittaker, who was the first to carry the mail in Wabash. In accord with the custom and necessity of the times, small cemeteries were laid out adjacent the churches: there were three in the township, located respectively at Shook's Chapel, Holsapple's and at Perrysville.

North Star is the principal village in Wabash, and stands one-fourth mile west of the center of the township, and in the center north and south. It was laid out in 1852. It is distant from Berlin ten miles, from Rossville six, from Colina seventeen, and from Greenville eighteen. The first sale of lots was made by H. Puterbaugh from Section 17. Sales were also made by D. H. T. Sullow from Section 9, and by S. J. Houston out of Section 8. None have been sold from Section 16, of which Mrs. Myra Wallace owns an eighth, and upon which she has a fine dwelling. On the corner section opposite is a general store building kept by Peter Groff, and built in 1852 by William Edwards, who put in the first stock of goods. It has changed proprietors a number of times in the interim from Edwards' till Groff's time, and both building and lot belong to the Campbell





heirs. The church here, as stated, was begun in 1876, but not finished until recently. A blacksmith named William Pierson built and operated a shop at the village in 1860. The saw-mill previously noted does an extensive business. The population of North Star is about one hundred and fifty.

The following are the statistics of the township for 1879: Wheat, 1,280 acres, 19,463 bushels; rye, 36 acres, 405 bushels; buckwheat, 14 acres, 204 bushels; oats, 644 acres, 20,806 bushels; barley, 9 acres, 101 bushels; corn, 2,212 acres, 23,350 bushels; meadow, 275 acres, 274 tons; clover, 278 acres, 203 tons, 30 bushels seed and ten acres plowed under; flax, 103 acres, 966 bushels; potatoes, 564 acres, 9,004 bushels; tobacco, 9 acres, 9,160 pounds; butter, 19,415 pounds; sorghum, 43 acres, 3,819 gallons sirup; maple sugar, 40 pounds; bees (hives), 83, 1,800 pounds; sweet potatoes, 116 bushels; orchards, 144 acres. The total of lands in Wabash is 10,550 acres, of which 5,918 are cultivated, 62 in pasture, 4,275 in woods, and 295 in waste. Considering lateness in settlement, difficulties in the way and distance from market, the record of the past and of the present give encouraging promise for the future.

### ALLEN TOWNSHIP.

Allen was taken from the north end of Brown Township in March, 1839, and contained all of Townships 14 and 15 north, of Range 2 east, except one tier of sections from the east side of each. In 1848, Township 15 was thrown into Mercer County. The general surface of Allen is rolling, and occasional hills are seen along the Wabash and Stillwater streams—the first named enters the township near the extreme northwestern corner, and flows in a general southeast course to the southeast corner of Section 15, two miles north of Rossville, then due north east to Section 11, where it enters Wabash Township. The second rises on the L. M. Turner place, southwest quarter Section 17, and runs southeast, crosses the pike a half-mile north of Rossville, keeps the same course a distance, reaches, finally, the southern line of the township, and enters Brown. The soil is dark and rich in the lowlands, but the clay predominates in the uplands.

At the present time, about one-third of the eastern portion of the township is timbered, which increases to a half in the western and northwestern parts. There are four saw-mills in almost constant operation. There are Titus' mill, close to the county line, five miles north of Rossville; Rodehammel's large steam-mill, two and a half miles north of the same place, and Sutherland's mill, one and a half miles east of the steam-mill. These mills are rapidly reducing the quantity of timber suitable for the various kinds of lumber. The township is well supplied with roads. Almost every section line is either a county road or a pike. No railroad touches the township. The houses are now mostly frame buildings, but there are a number of brick dwellings. Many of the better class of residences are seen. Farms are about on an average with those in the northern part of the county, generally.

The Irelands (Ephraim and Aaron) were the first settlers in Allen. They settled on Section 34, just south of where Rossville now is, on what is now known as the John Hagerman place. Others of the pioneers were George Reigel, with his sons John, David, Jacob and Jonathan; Samuel Zerby, Samuel Aspaugh, Landis Light, John Hagerman, Matthias Barnhart, Francis Jenkinson, Henry Brown; also James Cochran, who was the first Justice of the Peace in the township.

The first schoolhouse was built, during the year 1840, on land since owned by Joseph Bingham, on Section 30. The pioneer church was erected, in 1854, by the Methodists, on the line between Sections 29 and 32, two miles west of Rossville, on the present road to Lightsville. In 1855, a church was built by the German Lutheran denomination on the farm of Jacob Zerby, a little more than half a mile farther west of Rossville than the other. The first sermons preached in the





township were by Evangelical ministers in private houses. The first preacher was Bishop John Seibert. In the Methodist Church, the pioneer was Rev. T. Heistand. The United Brethren have a church five miles northeast of Rossville, near the Moisse property. The plans have been made and the money subscribed for a new brick church at Rossville. It is to be built by the United Brethren, and will cost about \$1,200.

There are nine schoolhouses in the township, five are brick, four are frame, and have an average seating capacity of forty-five. Rossville, a village of recent date, was laid out by John G. Ross, in 1868, from a part of eighty acres owned by him and Robert Ross laid off a few lots adjacent to the plat from his farm. During the year, a village store was started by Solomon Frank, and a post office established. Two years prior to this, a blacksmith named John Clapper had built a shop, and accommodated the farmers with a place where tools could be repaired and horses shod.

The products of the township are those usual to this section. Of these, corn is the staple; in 1879, 2,111 acres were planted, and 75,232 bushels produced; 1170 acres of wheat yielded 18,390 bushels; 643 in oats produced 18,962 bushels; 91 acres in potatoes yielded 6,086 bushels; 21,352 pounds of butter were made, 4738 gallons of sirup. The waste lands number but 45 acres; the cultivated, 5454; the pasture, 193, and the wood land 6,095; the number of acres owned is 11,757. Some few sheep are kept; but, as seen, the grains are heavily raised and much of the profit from farming are derived from the fattening and sale of hogs. The amount of fruit produced is small; attention has not been directed that way.

### MISSISSINAWA TOWNSHIP.

Township 14, Range 1, was a part of Jackson Township previous to 1839, when it was taken from the north end and formed into a township and designated as above. It included all of Township 14, Range 1, except the north tier of sections, which were then included in Gibson Township. April 12, 1848, when Gibson was thrown into Mercer County, this tier of sections was then taken into the township. Mississinawa is five miles wide east and west, and six miles long from north to south, and is absolutely regular in outline.

It derived its name from its principal stream—the Mississinawa Creek, which rises near the center of the township, runs southeasterly just over into the edge of Allen Township, then southwesterly, crossing the pike nearly half-way from Rose Hill to Lightsville, and thence in a general course a little north of south of west to the county line, in the northern part of Section 30, one and three-fourths miles north of Jackson Township line.

The surface is generally level, except the northwest portions, which are somewhat inclined to be hilly. The soil is warm and strong, and along the creek bottom is probably as productive as any other section of the county. About one-third of the surface of this township is timber-land with a fine growth of oak, ash, elm, hickory, sugar-maple and beech. Around the pleasant village of Rose Hill there is a greater predominance of yellowish clay in the soil, and the beech is found in the greatest numbers.

The days of discomfort have passed into forgetfulness, and the farmers to-day improve and enjoy what their predecessors toiled and suffered to make habitable. The old settlers' farms are under a good state of improvement, and, as a rule, are free from incumbrances. Crops of all kinds average well. A great deal of tile has been laid, and much excellent land rendered available to tillage by thorough drainage.

The pioneer settler in this township was Philip Replogle, who located in the year 1833, on the land since owned by Jacob Replogle, half a mile east of Rose Hill. In 1835, Joseph and William Replogle settled near the village. Other of



the early settlers were John B. Anderson, Samuel C. Carter, David Brooks, John A. McKibben, Hugh McKibben, William Van Kirk, William B. Light, Frank Whitaker, E. H. Fisher and Mahlon Peters.

The first schoolhouse was built on the land of Caroline Grissom, the date of its erection not known. The first church was erected by the Methodists in 1851 on land then owned by Samuel C. Carter, and situated one and a half miles east of the southwest corner of the township, on the line between Jackson and Mississinewa Townships. Samuel Carter was the first Justice of the Peace in the township.

Rose Hill is located one mile west of the eastern line of the township and three miles north at the corners of Sections 14, 15, 22 and 23, and was laid out in 1852. The village of Lightsville was laid out by William B. Light, in 1874. It is located on Section 26, just within the eastern boundary of the township, one and a half miles from the southeastern corner. It has a population of about one hundred and fifty.

This village has a fine schoolhouse that will seat eighty pupils. It is a new building, recently erected at a cost of about \$1,200. A saw-mill was put up in the southwestern part of the town by A. R. Crumrine. The mill burned down in 1898. Another and the present one was built in the summer of 1873, by William B. Light.

### JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

The township of Jackson cannot claim great antiquity, as compared with its older sisters, consequently its history deals more particularly with events more nearly modern, and whose active influence are still being felt.

The northern part is comparatively level, with a gentle slope toward the Mississinewa River. The soil is mainly a dark loam, very productive. Though the lands lie low in places, extensive drainage and tiling are rapidly making them available, and in a few years these tracts will have become the garden spots of the township.

The timber in this section is oak, ash, hickory, elm, etc., with originally a fine growth of walnut, of which little now remains. In the central part of the township, the surface is more uneven, but may be characterized as undulating, rather than hilly, with a tendency to clay soil in the more elevated portions. This is the upland section of the township. Beech is the predominating timber in this part of Jackson, followed, in order of abundance, by the sugar maple and shell-bark hickory. Southward, the surface is still more rolling, the soil lighter, warmer and very fertile in the depressions. Originally there was much poplar here, but the demand for this timber for lumber has exhausted the supply, and very few trees now remain.

James Marquis was the first settler in the township. He came in 1820 accompanied by his family, from the Alleghany Ridge, Virginia. He was a stalwart among pioneers, being of powerful frame and of full 300 pounds weight. Uniting robust health with this strong frame, he was the ideal of the pioneer, ranging the wood for game or felling the giant monarchs of the forest with swift and heavy strokes.

In 1831, his brother, William K. Marquis, removing from the old home, joined him in the woods of Jackson, and for two years, or until 1833, these were the only two families in the township, though there were four or five cabins about two miles distant, in the Creviston neighborhood, Washington Township. Kidd Marquis was born in 1794, served during the war of 1812, removed to Jackson, as said, where he died in 1858. His wife, in her eighty-sixth year, is healthy and active, makes journeys of several miles on foot, and possesses her faculties unimpaired. She is a worthy type of the settler's wife, having raised a family of nine children, now grown to maturity and filling honorable positions in life—a marked contrast





to the feeble health of many modern matrons with their one or two children. In 1831, a man named Burns moved in, upon the Reeves Hand place, between Union City and Hillgrove, on the bank of Dismal Creek. In 1833, Frederick Roe came from Fayette County and located upon land adjoining the Marquis clearing on the west, a portion of which is now included in the Union City incorporation.

"Pioneer" Jesse Grey settled one and one-fourth miles east of Union City, on the Greenville pike of to-day, at an early day, and by some it has been claimed that himself and family were the first in the township, but his original location was just across the line, in Washington Township. Grey was naturally kind of heart, but cherished a deep antipathy toward the Indians, and it was claimed by others and admitted by himself, that he shot them on sight, whenever possible, in revenge for terrible wrongs inflicted on his ancestors years before.

It is related by Dr. W. J. Stewart, who, while on a journey to Adams County, Ind., in 1859, called at the log cabin of Mr. Grey, who had removed thither and settled near Buena Vista, that he found the old gentleman, now over eighty years of age, living with his third wife, and the father of a bright little lad of some eight years. Conversation turning upon marksmanship with the rifle, the old man spoke of having shot a deer the day before from his cabin door. He then took a target about an inch square, and sent it out by his little boy to a tree just one hundred and ten yards distant. Standing at the cabin door he discharged several balls into the very center of the mark without a rest, a feat for which he might well feel pride.

On one occasion, he came upon an Indian, between whom and himself there existed a special enmity. Neither had the advantage, and they agreed to stand side by side, discharge their rifles and walk to some settlement. On the way to a clearing the Indian spoke of thirst, and both kneeled down to drink. Grey left his companion at the creek, and although he never confessed the murder, it was left to be inferred that he did kill the Indian at the creek.

We are told that about 1833, there were three settlements formed within the present limits of the township, viz.: One about three miles from a road running from Greenville to the trading-posts of one Courier, now known as the Greenville pike, consisting of the families of William Parent, Tobias and Abraham Miller, John Armstrong and George Elston, a single man; a second was in the southwestern portion of the township, and composed of the families of John Woods, Marquis and Roe; and the third in the northeastern part of Jackson, comprising the families of Richard, John and Jacob Strait, Gilbert Vail and John Wright. These settlements having rapidly increased, the people realized the necessity of some kind of organization by means of which they would be enabled to rule themselves. Therefore, in 1833, a petition was presented to the proper authorities, praying for a township formation. Thereupon the court appointed John Armstrong Justice of the Peace, and William Parent, Constable, to serve until the regular township election, which took place in the following spring, resulting in the election of Armstrong to the office of Justice of the Peace, and Parent refusing to be a candidate, Samuel Dennison was chosen Constable.

It seems that on organization Jackson Township contained Townships 13, 14 and 15 of Range 1, which were then embraced within the limits of Washington Township. In June, 1836, Township 15 and the north tier of sections of Township 14 were detached from Jackson and named Gibson Township. Three years later, in March, the remainder of Township 14 was formed into Mississinawa Township. Following formation, the settlement of Jackson continued by the entry of lands, and the increase of clearings. In 1834, Hezekiah Fowler arrived with his family from Maryland. He hastily put up a log shed, on the prevailing plan of a "sugar camp," that is, with an open front, and in this rude covering passed the winter. In 1835, Matthias Sawyer entered land where the Archard place now is, north of town. James Marquis, above referred to as the pioneer of Jackson, had three sons, Henry, William and Lewis. The former inhabits the old homestead





on Grey's branch. Lewis lives a short distance south of Union City, Ind. William moved to Iowa, in 1858, and died there. The elder Marquis was a Methodist local preacher, and a well-educated man for one who had gained his knowledge by self-application. He gave his attention to medicine, and became in time a very good doctor. Although a Virginian, he was a notable Abolitionist, and spoke upon the subject in both Ohio and Indiana, being at times subjected to vituperation and personal abuse, which he was not backward in resenting.

William Dennison was born in Washington Township, and came into Jackson in 1833; settled four miles northeast of Union City, where he entered eighty acres of the southwest quarter of Section 14. He worked at \$7 per month, and split rails at 25 cents a hundred, to secure money to pay for his farm. He had seven children, and died April 19, 1853.

Isaiah Pickett and wife moved from South Carolina to Washington Township, in 1836, and "squatted" on land near Flory's, on Greenville Creek; later he moved to Hillgrove, and built a small house just east of the Methodist Church, where he remained a few years, and later, moved to land between Hillgrove and Union City. He died in March, 1856.

When the township was first settled, the country was a dense forest. Wolves began their dismal howling about dark and kept it up for hours. Wild turkeys would come within the clearings to pick up food, and it was a common practice to leave the door of the corncrib open, and sometimes two or three birds would be caught at once in this way.

There was no outlet from the clearings but by blazed paths through the interminable woods. For the accommodation of the settlements, a petition was presented to the County Commissioners, asking for the establishment of a road running from a point on the Greenville and Mississinewa pike in the southwestern part of the township, in a northeasterly direction, intersecting the Greenville and Fort Recovery road, where it crosses the Stillwater, and this road, duly established, was the first highway located and cleared by the people of Jackson Township.

The first church in the township was erected by the Methodists, on the land of John Woods, now owned by Jacob Darlinger, and is still standing. The United Brethren erected a chapel near the center of the township on the Teegarden pike. It is a frame building in which Rev. Keester holds alternating services, the other point being Union City. The Christian denomination hold meetings in the schoolhouse, two miles north of the Huntsbarger corners. Revs. Alonzo Laten and Smith preach here alternately. The First Christian Church of Union City, Ohio, was organized with about thirty-five members, by Elders Henry Gittinger, Harrison Vinson and C. M. Sharp, in the year 1861. Elder H. Gittinger was the first Pastor of the church. The following named ministers served successively as Pastors of the church, viz., H. Vinson, C. M. Sharp, A. W. Brodric, J. Jacobs, J. Weeks, T. S. Wells and T. A. Brandon. A building was constructed in the eastern part of the city, on two lots on the corner of Oak and Plum streets, at a cost of \$1,300. The builder was Jacob Deardorff, and the dedication was by Rev. Joseph Weeks. In 1876, the United Brethren purchased the house and still own it.

Educational interests have not been neglected, as is evidenced by ten school districts, with schools in a flourishing condition. One of the first schoolhouses remembered, stood at the cross roads, one mile east of the "Strait settlement," and one of the early teachers was Richard Butler, from German Township, some time in 1842-43. Another early school building was erected on Section 35, on land owned by John Armstrong. In 1835, the first subscription school was taught by Amos Barrier, in the Marquis neighborhood. Barrier moved here with his family and opened the school the same year. Alem Fowler was also among the earlier teachers. In 1835, a log schoolhouse was put up on the Crumrine land, now owned by George Haas. Michael Spayd taught the first public school in 1836.

The buildings of the present indicate attention to the comfort of the children. Eight brick and two frame houses, nearly uniform in style and size, accommodate



the youth of the township. The brick cost \$1.200 each, and a tax has been levied to replace the remaining frame with brick structures. Their average seating capacity is sixty; teachers' wages, \$1.50 per day, and two-thirds of the teachers are gentlemen.

It is remembered that in various sections of this country the gravel hills have been used by an extinct race as the depositories of the remains of their dead, and, in excavating gravel for the State line pike, a great quantity of human bones were discovered which may have belonged to those unknown people. One of the earliest deaths known to Jackson was that of Edward Payne, an old soldier of 1812, who had also participated in the battles of the Revolution; he was buried in the woods under a beech-tree, there being at this time no graveyard. Within a few years, Mr. Galloway took up the remains and buried them in the new cemetery. The original grave here spoken of was the first one made in Union City, Ohio. There is as yet no cemetery in the Ohio portion of the city, but there are graveyards—one on the Marquis farm and one at Hill Grove.

It remains to speak of the mills by whose aid the timber was made a source of wealth and comfort. The Buckthorn mill, on the Teegarden pike, has been running about sixteen years. It was built by John Parent, and still does a large business, turning out a great deal of heavy timber for railroad and pike purposes. At first, a sash saw was used, afterward a muley, and more recently a circular. This is a steam mill. Two miles north of this mill there is another, owned by J. Hayes, and by him built in 1875. This is also a steam mill, with circular saw. Formerly, what was known as the Rifle Mill stood three miles north of Huntsbarger Cross Roads. It was run by steam, and done away with several years ago. At Dogtown, three miles east of Union City, on the Panhandle road, Samuel Dennison & Co. put up a steam saw-mill about 1855, which did an extensive business. Much of the lumber used in Union City was obtained from this mill. It changed hands many times, and was last owned by Robison, Harlers & McKee.

Politically, for the last ten years the township has been Democratic; previously it had been Republican and Whig. About one-sixth of the population is German, one-sixth Irish, and the remainder are American. Industry is the common trait, and the township is a satisfactory home for its people.

#### UNION CITY.

This enterprising, dual-State city, situated upon that intangible reality the "State line," contains two village corporations with corresponding sets of officials. The western portion is known as the "Indiana Side" and the eastern as the "Ohio Side," and this designation is convenient in reference to these localities. The former is accredited with a population of 5,000, the latter nearly 2,000, making an estimate of 7,000.

The original plat of Union City, Ind., includes a quarter-section of land purchased by Jerry Smith of Augustus Loveland early in 1852, for \$1,200, he having inherited it a few years previously from his father-in-law, Mr. Crumrine. Prior to 1852, no railroads had been completed to this place. The Dayton & Union terminated at Greenville, and there was a sixty-mile gap east and west of Union City on what is now known as the Bee Line road. On December 25, 1852, the former road was completed to Union City, and during the year following the second was finished, and the extraordinary growth of the city is evidenced by the fact of its incorporation. In 1854, the Monroe & Mississinawa Railroad was begun and partially graded, but the enterprise lay dormant until 1866, when, through the energy of Dr. J. N. Converse and others, it was pushed forward, and completed in 1867, under the title of the Union & Logansport Railroad. It was subsequently leased to the owners of the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railroad. Among the first houses erected was a boarding-house by Jacob Livergood for the accommodation of the hands on the Bellefontaine and Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati





& Indianapolis Railroads. The first house completed in Union City, Ind., is that now owned by Dr. Yergin, opposite the *Eagle* office. In this structure a saloon was kept, whose baneful influence was attested by the simultaneous discharge of seventeen employes of the railroad shortly after its doors were thrown open. Soon after this, a dry-goods and two grocery stores and a saloon were erected and opened to patronage on the Ohio side. During the years 1853-54, six stores and a number of groceries were opened on the Indiana side. Then a number of saloons were opened, and so apparent were the ill effects of these institutions that a war against them was commenced and kept up until the evil traffic was abolished. From that time until now, not a saloon has had existence on the Indiana side, but there are now (1880) *thirteen* on the Ohio side.

Growth continued; large mercantile and manufacturing establishments located here; banks were chartered; hotels built and thrown open to the public; telegraph and express offices were opened. Public interest centered on turnpikes and turned to the erection of water-works. These last were finished in 1874, and from a well of 20 feet depth 800 gallons of water are furnished per minute, and conveyed by means of two powerful engines and pipes throughout the city for domestic and manufacturing use. Add to these the potential influence of the schools, the press and the churches, and an idea of the factors of progress used in the development of this city may be realized. The first school was opened by Miss May Ensminger in her father's house on Howard street during the fall of 1853. The first public school was held in the winter of 1853-54, in a Bee-Line boarding-car. The first Methodist class here organized was in the spring of 1852. The first meeting-house was erected during 1858-59, and, in November, 1858, the Christian denomination formed a society. A church had been commenced five years earlier, but was not finished till this time. The First Presbyterian Church was organized under the direction of the Presbytery of Miami by Rev. Isaac A. Ogden, Presbyterian missionary, at the house of Martin Cox, Washington Township, on November 8, 1836. St. Mary's Catholic Church was organized in 1854. The first German Evangelical Lutheran Church was formed by Thomas Laeker in 1857. The primary meeting for the organization of the Universalist Church was held January 19, 1860.

Three Masonic, three Odd Fellows, one Rebecca, one Knights of Pythias and one Red Men's Lodges, Young Men's Christian Association, literary, musical, building and other associations, fire department, etc., are of sufficient importance to warrant notice preparatory to an historic sketch of the Ohio side; if, indeed, not essential to give increased interest to the subject. Union City, Ohio, was incorporated under the laws of the State in 1853. The petition was presented to the County Commissioners and filed in the office of the Auditor of Darke County, September 4, of the year named, and it was heard and allowed December 6. It was filed for record January 5, 1854, and recorded on the 23d following. The certified copy now in the Mayor's office bears date May 13, 1854, and the following are the petitioners' names: S. P. McMillan, B. W. Evans, George W. Inman, E. H. Turpen, Josiah Mongar, David Fruits, F. M. Katsenbarger, John Mathis, James Allen, F. Stahl, N. D. Farrell, H. S. Weinland, J. I. Wolf, R. B. McKee, I. S. Woodbury, Reuben Weinland, John Haas, Z. Brownley, G. R. Dewey, William B. Fields, Courtney Hays, R. N. Stevens, I. D. Carter, J. J. Turpen, R. G. Miller, J. W. Shiveley, J. E. Paxton, A. Adair, S. C. Miller and William B. Woodbury.

The original plat was made by Josiah Mongar in 1853. Mongar owned forty acres now at the center of the corporation on both sides of the railroad. He donated ten acres to the Bee Line as grounds for shops, switches, warehouses, etc., and also erected a saw-mill about the same time, opposite where the brewery now stands, that is, on the corner of Division street and the railroad. The next addition of about ten acres, in the same year, was made by John Haas, soon after which Brownley made an addition. Then Jerry Smith and his brother Oliver, now of Indianapolis, added ten acres. The Fowler Additions, first and second,





and several others, including the recent one by Mr. Archard, completes the series up to 1880.

The following view of Union City, Ohio, written in 1876, by Alfred Lenox, then and now the oldest living resident, and published in the *Times*, is appropriate here:

"This portion of the city was incorporated in 1853. The population now numbers about fifteen hundred. There is here a substantial school-building, and the Christians have a commodious frame house for worship. The manufactory of slack-barrels, staves and headings employs from twenty to thirty hands, and affords a market for a vast quantity of timber, which has heretofore been nearly valueless except for fuel. A planing-mill and manufactory, in connection with a lumber-yard, employs from twelve to fifteen hands. There is a furniture factory, with a running force of several hands (about fifteen), and a hub, spoke and chair factory, having about an equal force of employees. All of these industries employ steam to propel their machinery. Besides these, there are two steam saw-mills, a steam flouring-mill with four runs of buhrs, and a furniture manufactory, giving employment to five or six hands. There are, also, five firms engaged in making brick, doing an extensive business in that line, and there is one large tile manufactory. Besides the usual proportion of smaller mercantile and mechanical establishments, there are saloons, billiard rooms and an ale manufactory." We learn that "this portion of the city contains a number of private residences, all the principal streets are well graded and graveled, and all turnpikes leading into the city are free to the public." The history of the mechanical and mercantile interests of the Ohio side, for several years from the first and from the era of small beginnings to the later day of more extensive efforts, is briefly expressed in the following paragraphs. Only those who have attempted similar work can fully understand the labor essential to these statements.

The first blacksmith-shop was established by F. Roe, in 1853, at the south end of Division street, then in a strip of woods. In the same year, a shoe-shop was carried on by Lewis Willarime between the Bee-Line Railroad and where Elm street now is. A cooper-shop was established and run by P. R. Galloway, in 1855, for a period of eight months. It was located at the corner of Division street and the railroad. The next blacksmith-shop was carried on by Woodbury & Hulse, also on Division street. A shingle-manufacturing machine was set up by David Fruits, in the northeast part of town, during 1853, and was operated till 1855. The next project realized was a saw-mill, built near Division street, on the west side, near the railroad, by Henry Weinland, with one sash-saw. Then, S. P. McMillan and Thomas Workman set to work and erected a steam flouring-mill, having four runs of buhrs, three-stoned, and having a "hip roof." This mill is still running and does good work. The present proprietor is Thomas McFeeley; capacity is one hundred barrels in twenty-four hours. The machinery is run by double engines of forty horse-power. The initial dry goods and grocery store was that of Morgan & Carter, opposite the flouring-mill built in 1853. Messrs. Brown and Archard opened a wholesale grocery and liquor store in 1856. The next year, P. R. Galloway ran the largest hoop-pole establishment, at the time, in the State of Ohio. It was located by the switch, near the flouring-mill. Shipments for the winters of 1858 and 1859 amounted to over four hundred car loads. Joseph Turpin, in 1855, started a store on the Deerfield road, and, two years prior to this, a little bakery had been opened by Katzenbarger & Stahl, and M. B. Dickey had engaged in tailoring in a shop opposite the flouring-mill.

#### MANUFACTURES OF UNION CITY.

In a brief recapitulation of the business interests of the city in the past, it is well to recur in contrast to the present as illustrative of permanence and progress in these all-important auxiliaries to the prosperity of a municipality. We set out



and go not far till we reach the grain warehouse of G. Lambert & Son, on the west side of Division street, south of the Dayton & Union Railroad. The first part of this structure was raised in 1870; it is a two-story frame, 40x24 feet, built by Henry Stoner. There were two cribs adjoining, one being 100x10 feet the other 20x40. In the spring of 1877, Stoner sold to the present firm, by whom extensive additions have been made. The building and machinery, including a thirty-horse power engine, are estimated at \$6,500. The grain handled averages about a quarter-million bushels for the year. Next, is the brick factory of Jacob Snook, together with a tile factory and neck-yoke and single-tree works—each end of Elm street. The wood-works consist of two parts—a brick engine and boiler house, and a framed structure for the lathes, etc. The former was built in the summer of 1879; the latter was completed in January, 1880. The first is 30x80 feet, and 130,000 brick were required to complete the walls and encase the engine and boiler house. The cost of the structure was about \$6,000. The brick factory has been turning out 10,000 per day regularly. The two establishments are located upon grounds containing five acres. The tile factory has for its site five town lots, situated just west of the other works, but within the corporation. The two kilns produce about \$6,000 worth of tile in a season, and have been in operation since 1872. George Haas has a large brick kiln about one-fourth of a mile east of town, which he has operated yearly for some time. The Union City Slack Barrel Stave and Heading Works were built, in 1870, by Hugh Wiggins & Son, of Dayton, Ohio. The main building is 30x60 feet. There are seven sheds, whose aggregate length is 1,200 feet, and there are two dry-houses. The cost, including machinery, was some \$6,000. The works have been run irregularly for the last five or six years. Amos Wiggins, the junior partner, died in November, 1879. Latterly, the works have been repaired and put in order for running at their full capacity. They are capable of turning out 20,000 staves and 5,000 to 10,000 headings per day. E. H. Kimes has been foreman since the origin of the enterprise. In 1860, Witham & Brother erected a building for the manufacture of clamp-screws, broom handles, trunk slats, handles, and general turning. It was 40x25 feet, two stories, and stood east of State Line street and south of the Dayton & Union Railroad. This structure was destroyed by fire, and early in the spring of 1874 a new building was put up, which consists of two parts, one being 40x80 feet, with an addition 20x50 feet, and the other, 30x60 feet. This building and business belongs to S. L. Carter and George L. Carter. The former is an old resident, who lived in Mississinawa before its organization into a township; the latter is superintendent. The annual product of this mill is about five hundred dozen clamps, fifty thousand broom handles, over two million trunk slats, and a like number of trunk handles. A saw-mill is in active operation the year round, for their exclusive use. The lumber is dried by a new patent hot-air process, invented by the proprietors. The establishment is worth about \$10,000, and the manufactured stock amounts to about \$25,000 a year. An eighty-horse-power engine is now building by the Smith Brothers, Union City, to replace the one now in use, which has been found too weak to drive all the machinery. Eighteen to twenty hands are employed, and the average running time for the last two years has been fifteen hours. The furniture factory of John Koontz was built in 1876. It is 30x50 feet, two stories, with an addition. On the northwest corner of Wall and Walnut streets stands J. T. Hartzell's saw-mill, built in December, 1878. It is run constantly, the motive power being a forty-horse-power engine.

William J. and Charles S. Hook, under the firm name of Hook Bros., commenced the manufacture of butter tubs and pails at Cardington, Morrow County, in 1868. Suitable timber becoming scarce in that locality, after looking the country over, they decided to remove to Union City, Ind., and did so November, 1877. Some months later, they decided to locate their factory on the Ohio side, and, in 1879, built the present works.





The building is a frame, 68x96 feet, and has three stories. It is situated on two acres of land, belonging to the Bee Line Railroad, on Elm street. The building and structure, including also, the stock, cost \$10,000. The works are now running at full capacity, mostly day and night, and average 100,000 packages, assorted sizes, per annum. Thirty to thirty-five hands are employed. A considerable share of the stock they work up is furnished from a saw-mill owned and run by them in Versailles, Wayne Township. Their business amounts to about \$30,000 a year. The power is supplied by a very neat, compact steam engine, seventy-five horse-power, made at the works of Smith Bros. Their location at this point was the happy conjunction of large quantities of suitable timber and excellent shipping facilities. When it was learned that the proprietors contemplated removal to the Ohio side, a purse of \$600 was subscribed by the citizens of the west side to induce them to remain, but they declined, while they appreciated the compliment conferred. The works are a model of machinery and management, and employes are promptly paid each Saturday night.

Meanck & Son are proprietors of a furniture factory. The senior proprietor came into Darke County in 1863, from Estell County, Ky. In 1867, he erected a two-story building, 20x40 feet, and, in 1875, doubled the capacity of the rooms by an addition equal in size to the original structure. There are eight or nine hands employed. Furniture in general is here manufactured.

McKee & Robison are engaged in the manufacture of paper bags. They established themselves at this point March 6, 1880, and have been running from five to eight hands on grocery bags, and in connection carry on a trade in old iron and rags. Their present location is in the "Orr Building."

A hardwood lumber-yard was opened by Messrs. Jones & Benner in September, 1879. January 1, 1880, Mr. Ebert became a partner. Shipments are made to various points in this and adjoining counties.

These, the active business enterprises of the day, will soon pass into the history of the past, and in future it will be an easy task to learn from a brief perusal of these pages whence and by whom the early prosperity of Union City was achieved. A city, to prosper, needs a favorable site, good communications with the outer world and citizens of wealth, intelligence and energy, and in these essentials, fully enjoyed, the rapid growth of the town has been found.

The first Justice of the Peace on the Ohio side was Silas P. McMillan. He was succeeded by David French. Mr. McMillan was also the first Mayor. Anecdotes are current of his peculiar methods of transacting official business. On one occasion he was engaged in a game at cards, when the Marshal brought in a prisoner. His Honor requested them to "be seated until the game was over," saying that "if I quit now, I will be stuck for the game," and the parties sat down and waited the conclusion of the play, when the case received requisite attention.

The Squire, as well as Mayor, on another occasion, sat in a case wherein two citizens were engaged as counsel. The prisoner had been arrested for petit larceny. The evidence was overwhelming, and his counsel taking him into an adjoining room, raised the window and counseled him to go, and he hastened to depart.

The announcement of his escape was followed by prompt pursuit, but terror added wings to the fugitive's feet, and he safely crossed the State line. The "Court" was more amused than offended, and joined heartily in the laugh which followed upon the announcement of the culprit's escape.

Esquire Livergood was also one of the first Mayors and Justices of the Peace. In 1854-55, and again in 1857-58, ordinances were drafted, but lost or destroyed by interested parties, before they were adopted. Such, too, was the fate of all other records of council proceedings. Just prior to the late war, William A. Orr was elected Mayor and took the oath of office, but learning that there were no ordinances in existence to guide him in the discharge of his duties, and that there were no records of council proceedings, he refused to serve. New ordinances were drafted and under consideration, but the outburst of war prevented their





passage, by decimating the council, so that no progress to speak of was made, beyond the mere fact of the incorporation, until 1865, when the ordinances needed were drafted, adopted and published.

The first school after the incorporation was taught in a room on the third floor of the large building on the corner of Sycamore street and the railroad. Later, a two-story frame schoolhouse was erected on the lot whereon the present brick building stands. The old schoolhouse was replaced in 1870 by the present commodious structure, which, in its turn, is becoming too small to accommodate the ever increasing attendance.

There are two small, neat frame buildings, located near each other, on Elm street—the one is used as a township house, the other as the city hall. The one which stands farther to the east, was built in 1877, by J. S. Johnson. The Township Clerk's office is in one room of this building, and the law office of O. A. Baker occupies the west end. The other building has also two rooms—one used by the Mayor and Village Clerk as their office, and the other as the office of C. J. Prickett.

The following are the present township officers: Trustees, D. W. Sigler; Jacob Beery and George Dennison; Justices of the Peace, Joseph Eichelbarger and William M. Grimes; Constables, Jacob Beery, Jr., and W. R. Gard; Assessors, James B. Creviston and James Eichelbarger; Clerk, J. McMahan, and Appraiser, Solomon Young.

We name, also, the present village officers: Mayor, William M. Grimes; Clerk, James McMahan; Treasurer, H. S. Stocksdales; Marshal, W. R. Gard, and Councilmen—J. J. Norris, James Purcell, James Spanagle, J. Eldridge, Jacob Thomas and Edward Hanhman.

The two named are the only lawyers in Union City. There is one physician, a resident of three years, and there has never been a post office in Jackson Township. It would be pleasant could we have known from experience the gradual changes which evolved farm, hamlet and city, from the demands of production, commerce and manufacture, but the foregoing vividly contrasts with the savagery prevalent less than thirty years before, and illustrates the civilizing power of the railway in its course across States as well as counties, and in its bead-like stations along its route.

## BROWN TOWNSHIP.

Brown Township was constituted in December, 1833, being taken from Richland, and was bounded as follows: Beginning at the northwest corner of Township 13 north, Range 2 east, thence southward to the township line; thence east to the east line of Section 35; thence north to the township line, and west to the place of beginning. Subsequently those parts of Townships 14 and 15, which lay directly north, and of equal width to this were added, but, in 1839, were laid off into a new township called Allen.

In length, Brown is six miles north and south, and in width, five miles. Much of the land was originally entered in quarter-section tracts, the law then requiring one-third down and the balance in installments. Subsequently, a "forfeiture" of eighty acres was allowed, that is, the half of the entry could be relinquished and the money that had been paid on the whole could be applied to pay for the part. A later law permitting the entry of forty acres, caused great rejoicing among the poorer classes of movers, and a rush of settlers came swarming into this part of the State.

Not all these lands were purchased directly from the Government. A grant had been made to the Miami and Erie Canal, and the company sent appraisers into this section to value the lands according to location, quality, etc., which gave the range from \$1 to \$2.50 per acre. Land now within the corporate limits of Dallas was sold at \$1 an acre, which would bring at this day \$100, and is held at \$125.



Topographically, Brown Township is one of the most level of the northern tier. Even along streams the surface is comparatively uniform in this respect. The Stillwater, which rises in the "spread" in Jackson, enters Brown, near the southwest corner of Section 7, on the place now owned by Lewis Kern, runs northeast to the pike on the C. C. Kerrow farm, in Section 6; thence nearly south across the northeast corner of Section 7, again to the line, then forms a sharp bend in the northwest quarter of Section 8; from thence proceeding rather crookedly, but without any very marked variations from a southeastwardly course to near Dallas, at which place the stream becomes very tortuous, with a general course north of east, to the township line, about one-fourth of a mile from the northeast corner of Section 23, and nearly half a mile north of the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati & Indianapolis Railroad. Several minor branches flow into the main stream, the principal auxiliary being the one which joins the Stillwater, a half-mile east of Dallas. This branch forms a bow over a mile to the westward before it reaches a point almost a mile and a quarter north of its mouth. Following a freshet, an aerial view of the township would show a maze of petty streams, but at other times many creeks are quite low and sometimes altogether dry.

Originally much of the land of this township was regarded as next to worthless, but systematic ditching and draining have rendered those very tracts the most valuable. Encouraged to persevere, a great deal of tile is still being put down by owners. Besides the uniformly even surface, the lands of Brown were characterized by a remarkably diversified yet well-distributed mixture of timber—almost every variety that was to be found in any part of the county being found here, and the trunks were generally straight, and of value for lumber and for mechanical purposes.

For many years, the timber was ruthlessly destroyed before the advent of the railroads and manufactories permitted its transportation and use. The number of establishments for the manufacture of hubs, spokes, staves, etc., show that the supply, although sensibly diminished, is far from being exhausted.

The Pan Handle (old Columbus, Piqua & Indianapolis Railroad, enters the township near the southeastern corner of the southwest section (31) and passes out one-fourth mile from the northwest corner of the section. Reckoning, also, from the east, the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati & Indianapolis Railroad enters the township almost at the center of the east line of Section 23, and passing through Dallas, goes in a straight line to a point a trifle south of the northwest corner of Section 30, where it enters Jackson Township, its inclination southward being one-half mile in five.

John Woodington is reputed to have been the pioneer of the township. He located upon St. Clair's tract on Section 29. A. Teegarden came in the summer of 1820, and entered the southwest quarter of Section 18. Daniel Dewall settled on the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 20, in the fall of the same year. David and Silas Riffle were early settlers; the former is now Mayor, the latter came in 1828; Thomas Marcum moved in during 1829; I. T. Wise, from Miami County, in 1834; Wesley Millett, a maker of wagons, in 1836; J. H. White in 1837; J. A. Wample, from Preble County, in 1838; O. M. Searl in 1839; and J. E. Miller in 1840. White located on the northwest quarter of Section 23; McWitley on the east half of southeast quarter of Section 10; and Titus on the northeast quarter of Section 29. A few these of the pioneers, examples, so to speak, of the men who organized and developed this section of the county. The first death that occurred in Brown was that of Rachael Teegarden, wife of Abraham Teegarden, who died the next season after her arrival here. The first marriage was that of Polly Dewall, daughter of Daniel Dewall, to John Bruno, whose nuptials were celebrated three or four years after their arrival in the township. The first birth was a son to Daniel and Nancy Studybalser, who was named Philip. His parents had come to the township on a visit, and being detained here, Philip was born on the farm now owned by William Bachman.





The first settler within the present limits of Dallas was John Tuttle, a native of Adams County, Penn., who was a genuine believer in ghosts, hobgoblins, etc., and was noted for spinning mythical yarns. George Turpen built the first house in Dallas, and sold the first goods. The first school in the township was taught by John Huffman, in a pole cabin, built in 1827, for the general accommodation of the settlers, for an area of several miles. Three old buildings long used as school-houses are still standing besides the fine union school buildings now in use.

David Rittle relates that in the famous "squirrel year," 1822, these animals made their appearance in such numbers that the clearings were actually covered with them—as much so as if a flock of blackbirds or flight of pigeons had settled on a small area. The Indians ascribed the circumstance to the failure of the mast, or nuts of any kind, in the woods that year. For many years, the squirrels had uninterruptedly increased until they had become very numerous; but 1822 was, to them, a famine year. Then the clearings were inconsiderable portions of the lands, and it is not incredible that the ground was "covered with them." It is said that in their ravenous hunger they forgot all fear, and if a person had an ear of corn in his pocket, they would swarm upon him and cut the very clothing with their teeth to get at the food for want of which they famished. They seemed to have an instinctive knowledge that in the southeastern country there was food to be had, and millions of them migrated in that direction, and found their way, it is said, across the Ohio into Virginia. Great numbers became so weak, through starvation, that they "fell out of the ranks" and perished by the way.

The travel to Brown Township naturally directs his course toward the inviting village of Dallas, located one mile west of the east boundary of the township, and three and a half miles north from the southern boundary. Stillwater Creek flows through the northern part of the incorporation. Dallas is the second station east from Union City, on the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati & Indianapolis Railroad, and is distant therefrom ten and four-tenths miles. The distance west from Versailles to Dallas is nine and eight-tenths miles. It was laid out in 1845, and incorporated in 1867. Ansonia is the name of the post office. Main street runs north and south, with Olive, Elm and Pearl parallel to it on the west. Cross, Canal, Weller and High streets run east and west, intersecting the first-named at right angles. The town is symmetrical in its outlines and divisions, and conforms to the cardinal points of the compass, so that the stranger is not perplexed, as at Greenville, by the sun's rising at irreconcilable points of the horizon.

The amount of freight shipped from Dallas, including grain and manufactured articles, is much beyond the average of towns of similar size, amounting, annually, to between six and seven hundred car loads. No telegraph station was located here till 1879, at which time J. H. Royer, station agent, took charge. The first operator was J. W. McCray, who is still (May, 1880,) night operator. Stephen Helm was engaged January 1, 1880, and remained until May 1. Mr. Royer is now day operator and express agent.

The first Postmaster in the town was Mr. Turpen, now a dry-goods merchant at Versailles. The first mail carrier was Samuel Baker. William White was the first Justice of the Peace, and held the office before the establishment of the present boundaries. Samuel Rinehart built the pioneer smithery, on the southeast corner of Main and Weller streets, which is still standing. It is difficult to ascertain with certainty who preached the first sermon in the township, but it is known that the second was by one Ogden. The first church stands yet, and is occupied as a dwelling-house, on the land now owned by George Teegarden. The Evangelical Lutherans have a neat brick structure, 32x45 feet, located in Baughman's Addition, in the southeast part of the town, on East Main street. The first preacher was Rev. E. A. Boehme, who also preached the dedication sermon. When the society was organized, there were only a score or more members; since that time there have been steady accessions.





The attention paid to education is evidenced to the stranger by the size, location and character of the school buildings. The new school building in Dallas is located on two acres of ground in Hulse's Addition, in the northwest part of town. There is a fine three-story brick structure, 34x56 feet, erected in 1873, at a cost of \$10,000. The builders were Robinson & Frybarger, of Greenville. The contract was for \$8,400. Extras amounted to \$1,600. The upper story is used as a school hall for lectures, entertainments, etc., is well seated and supplied with accessions to these ends. The second story is the high-school department, and the first or lower, the primary and intermediate. The first Superintendent was J. M. Syckes, who, with his wife as assistant and a good staff of teachers, secured to the community an efficient school. He was succeeded by the present Superintendent, John S. Royer, a man of marked ability and great popularity as a teacher. He is one of the County Examiners, and by his influence, experience and presence has done much to give the school the excellent reputation it now enjoys. O. J. Holloway was the last teacher in the grammar department. Miss Lizzie McAlpine, intermediate, and Flora Riffle, primary. Miss McAlpine has taught in the same room continuously since the school began and is in good repute. A fair supply of customary school apparatus has been provided. The officers of the present School Board are Dr. W. E. Hooven, S. Riffle and J. R. Knouff.

There are two organizations or lodges of secret societies in Dallas, the Ansonia Lodge, A. F. & A. M., chartered on October 21, 1874, by the Grand Lodge of Ohio, and the Odd Fellows, Ansonia Lodge, No. 605, instituted June 18, 1875. The former received their charter from Asa H. Batten, G. M., and Ferdinand Wilmer, Chairman of the Committee on Charters and Dispensations. The first officers were John S. Royer, W. M.; S. A. Hostetter, S. W., and W. E. Hooven, J. W. The lodge thus started gained rapidly and has a present membership of seventy-one persons, elected from the very best men of the vicinity. The charter members were J. S. Royer, S. A. Hostetter, W. E. Hooven, David Riffle, J. E. Leas, Jacob J. Pohlman, L. C. Anderson, M. W. Burtch, James McFarland, John B. Wertz, Phillip H. Cromer, Robert Davidson, E. M. Crick, Alexander Lopen, Joseph Smith and Orlando Porter. The present officers are Joshua Herring, Master; S. A. Hostetter, Senior Warden; James Abbott, Junior Warden; J. S. Royer, Secretary; James White, Treasurer; Charles Harmon, Senior Deacon; O. F. Johnson, Junior Deacon, and William Davison, Tiler. The place of meeting, alternate Friday evenings, is at Hostetter's Hall.

The charter members of the Odd Fellows were J. J. Peters, Wesley Millett, L. C. Garver, John Vanscoyk, C. D. Garver, N. Hartle, O. J. Hager, T. J. Earhart, John Stuby, G. W. Fifer, Peter Denise, S. A. Nead, L. J. Minnich, F. P. Hartle, N. S. Warvel and Levi P. McKibben. The first officers of the society were Wesley Millett, N. G.; J. J. Peters, V. G.; L. C. Garver, P. S.; G. W. Fifer, Secretary, and John Stuby, Treasurer. The present officers are George Bertz, N. G.; L. C. Anderson, V. G.; J. E. Leas, Treasurer and Secretary; J. Vanscoyk, the Permanent Secretary, and L. C. Garver, Treasurer. The lodge assembles Saturday evenings at the I. O. O. F. Hall, in Bertz & Baughman's building. The town has a band of thirteen instruments; it was organized in 1876 under the leadership of John Casad, the next and present leader was and is A. J. Young. It is a pleasant accessory to the town, and the delight of old as well as young to hear their music. The place is well supplied with reputable physicians. Dr. W. E. Hooven came to Dallas in 1870; Dr. L. C. Anderson is associated with Dr. Hooven, his former instructor, in practice of medicine. Dr. John H. Knouff studied under John A. Smith, of Piqua, Ohio, graduated at Cincinnati in 1858, and saw two years' service as Assistant Surgeon in the Fifty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry; has been in practice in Dallas ever since, and Dr. S. A. Hostetter has been a practitioner in Dallas since 1871.

The place has the usual accessories of shops for blacksmiths, saddlers, butchers, shoemaking and groceries. There are two hotels—the Miller House, on



the corner of Main and Weller streets, kept by Henry E. Miller, and the Ansonia Hotel, by Messrs. L. and C. J. Wolf. This latter house was built in 1854-55 by John Hathaway, who was its first landlord. A number of persons have had charge prior to present owners.

Messrs. Tracy & Quincy were the pioneers in Dallas in the drug trade, which they started here in 1868. They were succeeded by Dr. Hager, in the spring of 1870 and the fall of 1871. S. A. Hostetter & Co., present owners, came into possession. The present store was built in the spring of 1875. Bertz & Baughman began dealing in agricultural implements in the spring of 1873; they made several additions to their buildings, increased their trade, and handle a stock of \$6,000.

Messrs. R. P. and A. E. Vernier run a saw and planing mill, located south of the railroad, and just east of the Ansonia Stave Works. This enterprise was started in the fall of 1872, as a mill to "rough out" material for the Royer Wheel Company, of Cincinnati. It then employed from fifty to fifty-five hands. This was for the first eight months, during which the disbursements of the company at this point were over \$54,000, for lumber and labor. It was run by this firm about four years, when J. H. Royer, who had been managing agent for the several mills of the company, purchased it and additional to a continuation of the manufacture of hubs, spokes, etc., also got out stave material. In the spring of 1880, the present firm purchased the buildings and what machinery remains. The main building is 90x36 feet, with several large sheds attached. The original cost of the building was \$10,000.

Joseph H. Roush is a dealer in grain, and has been in business here since 1873. During 1878-79, he bought and shipped 100,000 bushels of corn and 30,000 bushels of wheat. Later purchases show comparatively greater amounts of wheat raised and sold here. Martin Kuntz was engaged in operating a grist and saw mill, located in the southeastern part of the town, south of the railroad. The saw-mill was built in 1850, the grist-mill five years later. The present owner made the purchase in February, 1865, and has run the mills steadily to the present. There are two runs of buhrs, thirty-horse power engine. The capacity of the grist-mill is from twenty-two to twenty-four barrels in twenty-four hours.

The Ansonia Stave Company, whose works are located in Baughman's Addition, in the southwest part of the town, do an extensive business in staves, headings, etc. The mill, sheds, etc., occupy two acres. The mill itself is about forty feet square, with an L one story. The present capacity and actual business of the factory is 247,000 hubs, assorted sizes, 500,000 barrel staves and much headings. Besides this, forty barrels for flour are made daily in the cooper department. About a dozen men are employed. The aggregate business annually, is from \$25,000 to \$28,000. The company began their works in 1873, on a small scale. Messrs. Robison & Rigdon were proprietors until 1876, when they sold to Roush, Leare & Co., and they, in the spring of 1877, disposed of the same to J. H., C. A. and W. A. Roush; the last named, in the spring of 1880, sold his interest to his partners, who continue the business.

A post office was established in Dallas in 1872, and S. H. Light, the present incumbent, who was appointed March 16, 1880, is the successor of E. Leare, the first official. A large amount of mail matter goes through this office. It is estimated, that the population of this local post-office district is not less than 3,500. There is no office north of here, this side of Mercer County, and some families of that county get their mail at Dallas. The present Mayor is David Riddle; the Clerk is Charles Schneiderman; Marshall, Preston Riddle; Council, Jacob Dearnorff, George McEldorney, S. S. Rittle, L. C. Garver, Marion Tullis and G. C. Hulse.

#### ANSONIA M. E. CHURCH.\*

Long before Dallas (now Ansonia) became a preaching place, the Methodists held regular services at different places in the towns and country around. An

\* From the pen of the Rev. John R. Colgan, Pastor M. E. Church.





occasional service was held in an schoolhouse a little north of the village, and later than this in the village schoolhouse. H. O. Sheldon, J. T. Bower, H. Boyers, M. Perkey, A. Armstrong, H. Burns, and others, were some of those who preached here before the society was organized in Dallas. Among these, we mention the honored name of J. P. Durbin, D. D., who, I am told, was accustomed at one place to lay the corn for his horse to eat on an oak stump, that he might be ready to move on as soon as he was done service. His own dinner he got as best he could, on the way. As early as 1845 to 1850, Methodist preaching was done in the house of Mr. — White, near Dallas. In 1863, Hill Grove Circuit, which embraced Dallas, was organized, with Benjamin L. Rowand as Pastor. In 1864, D. G. Strong, since gone West, was placed in charge, but was called during the year to fill a vacancy at Quincy, Logan County, and Henry Burns, a local preacher of fine ability, and now residing in Versailles, filled the unexpired term of Mr. Strong, and also supplied the charge the next year. In 1866, Jason and William Young filled the charge, and Henry Burns again in 1867. In 1868, Valentine Staley; in 1869, James Jackson; in 1870, P. M. Young; in 1871, M. M. Markwith. The charge embracing Dallas was known part of the time as Wabash, and part of the time as Versailles. In 1872, it took the name of Dallas; R. D. Oldfield, Pastor. The following are the Pastors, terms of service and salary, as far as reported in the conference minutes, since 1872: E. D. Whitlock, 1873, one year, salary \$650; T. L. Wiltse, 1874, two years, salary \$710; R. D. Oldfield, 1876, one year, salary \$725; J. R. Colgan, 1877, three years, salary \$750. The above do not include any rents, as there is a good parsonage. In 1875, the name of the charge was changed to Ansonia—the name of the railroad and the post office. In 1873, a church was dedicated at a cost of \$3,200. It is a model brick structure, 36x55 feet, with a fine bell. The existence of this house is due, as in most other cases, to the untiring energy of a few. Among these, we name W. E. Hooven, M. D., H. W. Fry, N. D. Poling, S. Kershner, J. H. Roush, G. M. Glick and D. Poling. On a corner near the church is a neat parsonage, worth about \$1,000. The working, as well as paying agency, in securing this desirable property, was Jacob Holdeman. The membership of this church is about eighty. The Sunday school has an average of about one hundred and twenty.

## YORK TOWNSHIP.

York Township was constituted by the Board of County Commissioners in June, 1837. Its territory was taken from Richland Township, and contained all of the county north of a line commencing at the southeast corner of Section 15, Township 11 north, Range 3 east, and running west to the southwest corner of Section 13, Township 13, Range 2. In June, 1841, all of York Township lying north of a line commencing at the southeast corner of Section 22, Township 12 north, Range 3 east, and running west to the southwest corner of Section 24, Township 14, Range 2, was formed into a new township, called Wabash.

By the last census, the population was 797, of whom thirty-six were foreign born; the inhabitants now number fully 1,000. The southern portion of York is level, and is somewhat clayey, presenting to the eye the appearance of prairie, except that probably one-fifth of the surface is covered with thrifty timber, mostly second growth of the original unbroken forest. The timber is hardwood—oak, hickory, maple, beech and some walnut, though the latter has been pretty generally cut down. Near the center of the township there is more of the burr-oak, and the soil is a sandy loam, very productive, especially along Indian Creek, which rises in the northern part of Brown Township and flows southeast, diagonally across York. In the vicinity of Brock, which is located upon the St. Mary's Pike, and about one and a half miles north of Indian Creek, the surface





of the country. undulating, is almost hilly, and the soil is lighter or clayey, with a larger proportion of beech in the wooded portions. About one-fifth of the land is uncleared. There are 4,667 acres cultivated, 812 in pasture, 3,593 in woodland, and 289 denominated waste lands. The total of land owned in 1878 was 9,361 acres.

Swamp Creek rises midway on the boundary of York, and flows southeastward. The belt of country along this stream is also very productive, the soil being a warm loam. The principal dependence of the farmers of York has been corn and oats, and the fattening of hogs. The average crop of oats is about forty bushels to the acre, and as high as seventy have been raised. The following statistics exhibit the productive capacity of the York Township farm lands: Wheat crop for 1879—from 1,343 acres, 29,258 bushels; rye, 12 acres, 167 bushels; buckwheat—5 acres, 39 bushels; oats—748 acres, 25,495 bushels; barley—20 acres, 335 bushels; corn—1,665 acres, 65,150 bushels; flax—58 acres, 615 bushels; potatoes—48 acres, 2,955 bushels; apples—191 acres, 940 bushels. From 343 acres of meadow, 453 tons of hay were cut; 63 acres of clover were plowed under for manure; tobacco—27 acres, 29,550 pounds raised; butter, 20,010 pounds manufactured. Besides these, there were produced considerable sorghum and honey, and some wool was shorn.

The soil along Indian and Swamp Creeks is not adapted to peach growing. As yet, with two or three exceptions, no special attention has been given to raising and improving stock. N. S. and Irving York are the principal men who have given special attention to the raising of good stock.

There are six turnpikes in the township, and only one road that is not piked—the one extending a short distance west from Brock. Generally speaking, the farmhouses are of the better class, decidedly, and, with the barns, outbuildings, windmills, labor-saving machinery, good fences and cultivated acreage, give unmistakable evidence of prosperity as the reward of industry. Nearly all the older settlers are out of debt and comfortably situated. Some of them are wealthy, among the foremost of whom may be named David Eury, Samuel Wilson, N. S. York, W. Bayman, David Duncan, Samuel Sherry, Lewis Sherry, David Lyons, William Miller and Mahlon Martin.

In pioneer days, most of the farms were small, being generally entered in forty or eighty acre parcels, but the forehanded have purchased from their less fortunate and more restless neighbors, and several large farms are the result. Such is the farm of David Eury, numbering 320 acres; David Lyons, 200; Samuel Wilson, 250; Washington Bayman, nearly 200; N. S. York, Lemuel Reigel and M. Martin, each from 150 to 160 acres. The south part of the township was settled first, and the first clearings were found mostly along the banks of Indian Creek. There is a disagreement between reports published and the testimony of those who are now in the best position to know the facts concerning the first improvement in and settlement of the township. The following is a phonographic report taken by H. Freeman of a recital made by Nicholas S. York, Esq., concerning his father Newberry York. "My father was born in Georgia near Augusta, and came from there to Ohio in 1810, to Preble County. He remained there about one year, and then went to Illinois. Two years later, he moved back to Preble County; thence he moved to Darke County in 1817, and went into Wayne Township near Versailles, where he entered eighty acres. He traded this entry for land now the site of Versailles. He did not lay off any lots, but there were a few laid off on the part next to his east line. He sold this property in 1833 to James C. Woods, who afterward laid it out in lots. Then my father came to Richland Township, and entered eighty acres of Section 15, Town 11, Range 3, upon which he passed his life, dying in 1870, at the advanced age of eighty-two years. He was Justice of the Peace in 1834, and had filled that office years before in Wayne Township. He was afterward an Associate Judge. Mother's maiden name was Nancy Slade; they were married in Georgia. There were nine children





—Joseph, William, Jerry, Nicholas, Jephtha, Newberry and Lewis, Diadama and Rebecca. Joseph moved in with his father. They are all gone but Nicholas and the two daughters." Samuel Reigel moved from Adams County, Penn., in 1837 or 1838, and has been a resident of York Township till the present. On his arrival, he selected and entered the quarter-section upon which he has lived so many years. He is now seventy-eight years of age. David Lyons married in 1836, and two years later removed to York Township. James Winget had entered eighty acres of Section 9, Range 3, which he afterward deeded to his son Joseph W. Winget, who sold to Lyons. David Lyons' son and a present resident says, "When I came here, the St. Mary's road had just been opened up, and the trees that were chopped down were partly removed out of the way, but the road was full of stumps, and there were no bridges. At that time, there were not more than two or three wagons in the township; one of them belonged to Judge York, and another to Mr. Spindler. The Judge's wagon was a great convenience. We used to double teams and go around through the hills ten miles to get to Versailles, when it was only four and a half miles across in a direct line, and there was no telling how long we would have to wait our turn. Generally, we had to go to the falls of Greenville and Covington for milling, and usually on horseback. There was a mill on the creek, half a mile below Versailles, called the 'Thundergust Mill,' because there was not water enough to run it except on rainy days or after a smart shower. There was a mill in the early day at Webster, whose remains may be seen, although another has taken its place." David Williams came from Preble County in 1840, and settled on Harris Creek. A son entered forty acres there, which were bought by Mr. Gibson who in 1843 moved to Indian Creek, on Section 9, Range 3, where in time he died; his son David Gibson resides upon the land to which he has added until he now owns 108 acres.

The oldest settler now living is "Mother Sondag," who is now in her ninety-second year. As her faculties are failing, and she can speak but little English, little information could be gained from her. She has a son named August Sondag, who is nearly seventy years of age. He has never married, and has always lived with his mother. How unusual this—seventy years of a mother's care and of filial solicitude, while several generations have hastened away from their old homes to embark giddily, recklessly and yet often, with fortune for themselves. How few those who deny themselves homes to attend parents! Samuel Sherry came from Montgomery County to York Township, in October, 1842, and lived with the Sondays until we could get a house put up. George Sherry, his father, had died in 1836. Samuel Sherry married a daughter of the Lanock family, who entered seventy-one acres southeast of Brock, about half a mile; 120 acres northwest, and then bought two eighths; one right above Brock, the other to the east of it. November 7, 1837, a patent was issued to Samuel Lanick, for the southeast quarter of Section 4, Township 11, Range 3 east, in the district of lands, subject to sale at Cincinnati, Ohio—a tract said to contain  $142\frac{8}{100}$  acres. Mrs. Sarah Sondag gives the following: "We came to this county in 1834, from Montgomery County, to which place we had come from Pennsylvania, and moved on to what is now known as the "Grisom Place." Among the first settlers of this township was Newberry York, at whose house we stayed until we could get a house built. William A. Sondag moved in a year later—in 1835. William Miller, Mahlon Martin, Samuel Winbiger and Samuel Hughes were among the early settlers. Zachariah Miller and family, from Pennsylvania, settled first in Franklin County, Ohio, and in the fall of 1834, settled near Versailles. In 1840, he died; a year later, his wife died. A son, William, came to York Township, March 1, 1858, and from that time has lived upon the farm composed of an eighty from each of Sections 8 and 9, Range 3, Township 11. Jacob Martin came from Pennsylvania to Warren County, Ohio, in 1797. He moved to Miami County in 1831. A son, Mahlon, was then ten years of age. In 1851, he moved to Darke, having bought forty acres adjoining his present farm, on Swamp Creek, for \$110, and just prior to moving, he bought a





second forty of improved land for \$450. Three years later, he sold the eighty for \$1,300, and bought of Solomon Christian the quarter-section, now his farm. Mr. Martin runs a large tile factory, whose product has been in good demand with great advantage to the lands. In 1844, Samuel Winbigler settled in York, on the Irving York place: later he purchased the Ezra Marks farm, where he died in 1876. He officiated as Postmaster and Justice of the Peace, and had a family of nine children. Such details as we have given in the foregoing are applicable to many residents of York and other townships. Their lives abound, not in tales of savage combat, perilous journeys, or treacherous schemes. Their years pass away in seedtime and harvest: death comes, and the child grown to manhood tills the old fields his father cleared, and growing affluent, he tears down the old house in which were passed the happy days of childhood, and upbuilds the more modern, better furnished, but no more comfortable mansion. The first roads were crooked, running zigzag from house to house. Prior to these were the bridle paths for horse-back riding or pedestrians. The "blazed" routes and Indian traces, superseded by "cut out" roads, were discontinued, and then came the surveyed muddy roads, and later, the permanent pike. No railroads touch the township. There are no grist-mills within its bounds. About 1868, there was a saw-mill on what is now the farm of William Miller. A few years, and it was moved to Brock, and from there to Patterson, and it is in operation at Versailles.

There is a blended nationality of the population. There are Eastern people, Southerners and Pennsylvania Germans. Politically, the township was for a long time about equally balanced between the two great parties, but now, the Democratic majority on a full vote is about forty.

Religious services were held for some time in the schoolhouses, but the Trustees, thinking the protracted meetings of injury to the progress of the pupils, at last refused their use except upon the Sabbath. The first preaching in this township was by ministers of the German Lutheran denomination at private houses. Isaac Hirsh preached in 1842, and Rev. Carlier, a German Reformed minister, Revs. Weisner and Klopp, preached in 1844 and 1845. Revs. Locker and Colliflower preached in an old log church, of which there is further mention. The next regular services were held by Rev. George Shafer during two years; he was succeeded by Jacob Weaver, Revs. Hoffman, Hochman, Valentine Koch and Isaac Hirsh; this was in the fall of 1878, when he removed to Illinois. Since that time, there has been no regular preaching. The church is open to all denominations for funerals. Deaths and removals have reduced the membership. In the days of the old church, there were about fifty members, but the average since the new church was built is not to exceed forty. The original Trustees were Samuel Winbigler and Samuel Sherry. The former having died and the other having been chosen, Mr. Sherry is now the sole Trustee. The Sabbath school has been regularly maintained at times, but at this time none is held. The first church in York Township was built in 1848. It was a log house that would seat about one hundred persons. The neighbors clubbed together and built it. The inside work on this pioneer edifice was done by David Grison. In the spring of 1848, Ezra Marker deeded an acre of ground to the Trustees of the society for church and cemetery. It is of pleasing location, on elevated ground. The first adult buried in the graveyard was David Gibson, Sr., who died August 12, 1851: two or three children had been interred previously. The old church was torn down at length, and, on April 30, 1856, the new frame church, a neat place of worship, was completed, and as stated, is used on funeral occasions and occasionally for services.

The pioneer Methodist minister within the limits of the township was Rev. Barr, who is remembered by settlers of 1846. Henry Burns, now of Versailles, was local preacher for many years. Alexander Armstrong, another old settler, was also a local exhorter; he is now a resident of Iowa. Services were held once a fortnight, in a log schoolhouse situated about three-fourths of a mile from the





present site of Brock. The frame Methodist Church at Brock was built in 1857, and dedicated by Rev. Henry Sheldon. Among the leading members of the denomination years ago, may be named John and Hannah Miller, Joseph and Catharine Boyd, Samuel and Rebecca Armstrong, James and Sally Medford, Samuel and Rhoda Hughes, Stephen and Susan Miller, Mary Oliver, William and Mary Boyd, and Zackariah and Elmira Miller. The Methodist cemetery is located half a mile west of Brock, near the southwest corner of Section 33, being a part of what is known as the place of Jesse Boyd.

The first school taught in York Township was by J. P. Hafer, in an old cabin, prior to the erection of a schoolhouse. He died in March, 1839, and was buried in the woods, there being no graveyard. The snow was over two feet in depth the day of the funeral. A Mr. McMahon was also a teacher in the early day. In the summer of 1837, a log schoolhouse was built on the land of Judge York. There are now six school districts. Some ten years ago, the township was re-districted and new frame schoolhouses were built of uniform style, equal cost and capacity, for from forty to forty-five children.

N. York was the first Justice after the organization of the township. Mr. Collins erected the first house. It stood on the school-lease, and was raised, probably, in 1830. Merchandising was begun by Josiah Johnson at the cross-roads at Brock. The building is now in use as a post office. Jefferson Shook was the pioneer smith, whose forge was located in the southeast corner of the township, where now David Oliver lives. Ezra Marker, George Bertram and others, laid off the hamlet of Brock, and sold the first lots. Then Jacob Winbigler and Egbert Winterworth bought a tract of Peter Lechman, and made some sales, and S. Winbigler also sold lots from the north end of his farm.

Brock has a population of about one hundred. The following presents an outline of its business and importance. There is the smithery of Reser & Crick, the wagon-shop of W. H. Reser, built by James Deam in the spring of 1877; a shoe-shop, located in the first building erected in the place, in 1848; a brickyard, run by A. G. Clark; a grocery and a general store. The place has somewhat of enterprise, as is evidenced by the possession of an organized brass band.

The first post office was established in Brock in 1848. Jacob Miller, Postmaster. Samuel Winbigler was his successor, and kept the office at his residence. The first mail-carrier between Versailles and Celina was Freeman Whittaker. The present carrier is George Stevens, whose route is from North Star to Greenville, eighteen miles. The following have been Postmasters: Isaac Boyd, Jackson Holway, J. B. Werts, Lewis Kendig, Isaac Bolton, R. Probasco, and B. F. Crick, incumbent since 1877. Brock has a fairly commodious and pleasant schoolhouse: average attendance, forty. The Methodist Church being dilapidated, meetings are sometimes held in the schoolhouse by that and other denominations. It is also used for election purposes, band practice, exhibitions, etc. The following are the present township officers: Clerk, John Brown; Trustees, Samuel McGriff, Jephth Armstrong and William Rue; Assessor, James Miller; Treasurer, M. Crushet; Constable, N. Lyons.

## RICHLAND TOWNSHIP.

This township was taken principally from Wayne, with sixteen sections from Greenville Township and four from Adams, and on its organization, September 8, 1820, was bounded as follows: Commencing at the north line of the county, on the line between Ranges 1 and 2, running thence south to the south line of Section 7, Township 12 north, Range 2 east; thence east to the southwest corner of Section 11, Township 10 north, Range 3 east; thence north to the county line; thence along the north line of the county to the place of beginning. In March, 1829, all of Township 12, Range 2, belonging to Richland, was put into Greenville Township. In December, 1833, all the land bounded as follows was taken from Richland



and erected into a new township, called Brown: Beginning at the northwest corner of Township 13, Range 2; thence south to the township line; thence east to the east line of Section 35; thence north to the township line, and west to the place of beginning. Shortly afterward, that part of Townships 14 and 15 north, Range 2, lying directly north of the boundaries just given, was added to Brown Township, and in June, 1837, the township of York was formed from Richland, which was then reduced to its present proportions.

The topography of Richland present some salient points. The Stillwater, which rises in the northern part of Brown and the southern extreme of the township of Mississinawa, and tends to the southeast, across the lands of the former, takes a very circuitous course through Richland. It enters at almost the northwest corner of the township, and runs thence somewhat east of south of Beamsville, in the eastern part of Section 32, making many short bends in its course between those points. From Beamsville, it runs a mile southeast, then to the northeast a half-mile, then east again a mile, turns then abruptly to the north, then inclines to the northward, forms a bend, and flows southeast, into the lower end of Wayne Township.

The outlines of Richland are irregular. Along the tortuous course of the Stillwater, the surface is broken and in places hilly, with the usual fertile bottom lands. In other parts of the township, though there is an admixture of clay, it is blended with loam and under good treatment produces good crops. In general, the name—Richland—is no misnomer, and the overworked farms are exceptionally few.

The first settler in the township was Jacob Hartell, followed, nine months later, by David Riffle, with his two sons, Jacob and Solomon, and George Ward, who came in March, 1818. James Stephenson and George Plessinger came in 1819—the latter from Pennsylvania. A short time later, came George Beam, Adam Coppess, Henry Stoll, Philip Plessinger, Peter Brewer and John Horney. John Miller came in 1822, and John Coppess, Sr., in 1824. We have thus some dozen pioneers left alone for a time, to occupy the lands of the future township. They received no accessions and lived along alone. The ague prevailed, and they withstood its chill and fever. The dreaded milk sickness ravaged the clearings, and they passed through the ordeal, to be thereafter known as the pioneers of the township. A number of years passed before any accessions were made to the population and those named were old settlers when the general migration, sweeping westward, deposited new settlers in the umbrageous forests of the country. Among these later comers were Daniel Warvel, from Warren County, Ohio, in 1834; E. Deming, from Connecticut, in 1836; D. L. Miller, in 1837; W. J. Warvel, in 1838; D. Hartzell came the same year, from Pennsylvania; Philip Hartzell came in 1843; George H. Winbigler in 1845; Alfred Coppess in 1848; H. Kent, from Maryland, in 1849, and John E. Braden and S. D. Rush, a year or so afterward.

Germans and those of Germanic descent form the largest element in the population, nearly all of whom speak English. The next largest element is American. There are a few Irish families, but no French, although numerous persons of that nationality have settled in the adjoining township of Wayne.

The first schoolhouse was built on the farm of John Coppess, right across the little stream opposite the Coppess graveyard. It was of logs, built on the pioneer plan, except the modern improvement of a small window with four panes of glass, located near the position occupied by the teacher; the other apertures were closed by greased paper. The fireplace was capacious enough for the most exacting.

This schoolhouse was erected probably about the year 1825, perhaps a year or so earlier. The first teacher in this structure was John Wilkins, and his successor was Thomas Crawson. There are now seven districts in Richland. All the houses are built of brick, and have been in use for the past ten years. They are commodious, well arranged and permanent, fully accommodating the needs of the community. The school building at Dawn cost nearly \$1,800. It is two stories, and will seat 124 pupils. There is a like structure at Beamsville.





In the line of improvements for the aid of settlers in building, there was a horse-mill on Hartell's farm. In connection therewith, was a still-house, the two being operated by Jacob Hartell in 1837 and 1838. There was another mill on the Hathaway farm, one mile southwest of Beamsville. This was a water mill, used only in grinding corn, and had sandstone "grayheads" for buhrs. This mill was the property of Thomas Hathaway. The next mill was built as a saw-mill and remodeled into a grist-mill, at what was called Johnson's Station. The town, Dawn, was then designated Eden. The last-named mill was run by steam, and in it was used the first stationary steam engine used in the township. In addition to these, there was the "Bloomer Mill," located at Bloomer Town, now called Stelvideo. This structure was raised about the same time as the Eden mill during the years 1853 and 1854.

The mill at Eden burned down while it was a saw-mill; it was rebuilt as a lumber-mill, and, afterward, enlarged into a grist-mill. Upon the foundation and with the frame of the old mill the present new mill was constructed.

In the connection of enterprises which have exercised a helping and comfort-giving influence, it has ever been customary to preserve the names, when possible, of those who inaugurated or began them. For this reason, we may mention William Goodheart, as the pioneer mail carrier; J. H. C. Dill, of Beamsville, as the earliest storekeeper, and Adam Coppess, as the first blacksmith, who erected his forge the year of his advent here, 1824.

The first sermon delivered in Richland Township was by John Childers, a minister of the Baptist denomination, in the house of James Stevenson, where Alfred Coppess now lives. The first church building was erected as a schoolhouse, and was purchased by the Methodist Episcopal society. It was located in the Coppess neighborhood on the farm of William Oliver. The next building used for worship was erected for that purpose by the members of a society of the United Brethren in the year 1842. It was built of logs at Beamsville on land donated by Fred. Beam. This house has been repaired and modernized, and is still standing.

Among the heaviest or largest farm owners in the township are B. F. Coppess who has 300 acres, Alfred Coppess, John E. Braden, John Coppess and David Hartell. Original entries were mostly in quarter and eighth sections. The general depth at which well water is found is thirty feet, but it varies from twelve to forty-five feet.

The Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati & Indianapolis Railroad crosses the north end of the township, and has a station known as Nevada, and the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railroad enters Richland about a mile west of the southeast corner and runs diagonally to a point three-fourths of a mile north of the southwest corner. Stelvideo, situated in the southern part of Section 9, is a station on this latter road.

From the earliest days along the years up to the present, the political opinion has been Democratic, and the party vote predominates by 100.

The following leading statistics from the report of 1879 show the capacity for production of the Richland farms. The entire number of acres owned is 12,426, of which 7,478 are tilled, 946 in pasture, 3,771 in woods and 231 in waste lands. The extent of wool-growing may be inferred by the clip of 1,244 pounds. Upon 1,927 acres, 36,891 bushels of wheat were raised; 834 acres in oats produced 31,341 bushels and 2,718 acres of corn yielded heavily of the staple product. Rye, barley, flax and potatoes are produced. Fifty-two acres in tobacco produced 69,390 pounds, and the dairy product was 33,502 pounds. Of sweets there were 2,745 gallons of sorghum sirup, 929 gallons of maple sirup, and from 113 hives, 1,227 pounds of honey. The orchards have not been neglected, and from 235 acres planted in trees, there was a yield of 5,776 bushels of apples, 45 of pears, and 35 of peaches.

The village of Dawn contains a population of about one hundred and fifty. The original plat was made by L. W. Johnson, and it was known by that name.





The site was established at the center of Section 20, in 1854, when the proprietor erected a saw-mill. The first addition to the village was made by Shelley, Birch and others. Afterward Uriah Winbigler, O. F. Davidson and James McFarland, also laid off additions. The original proprietor was the first Postmaster, and James McFarland here erected the first forge.

There is a church at Dawn, built by the Methodists in 1872, on land donated by C. W. Demem. The business of the place supports three stores kept by J. W. Duckall, J. B. Wertz and James Woods. The first named is also a grain and produce dealer, the last named is Postmaster. J. F. Shoud is the proprietor of a large saw-mill with which he does an extensive business. Rush & Chirger operate a steam grist-mill. It has two stories, has four runs, and is propelled by a forty-horse power engine. This mill stands on Section 20, and does both custom and job work. Its capacity is sixty barrels a day. O. Davison erected a tile factory in the spring of 1877, on his lands just south of Dawn. Twenty kilns of 275 rods, assorted size, are burned annually, requiring 130 cords of wood. It is the only tile factory in the township. The drying shed is 120 feet long and a second shed of 60 feet in length is being built. The village of Beamsville is situated on the Stillwater at the center of the west side of Section 32, Range 3, and at the crossing of the Greenville and Dallas pikes. There is about 150 population. It was laid out by John Beam in 1837. The first house put up in the place was raised by the proprietor of the village and it is still standing. Additions to the original plat have been made by Messrs. Hartell, Earheart and Plessinger. The Stillwater Hotel, kept by Samuel Paulas, was built in 1834-35. It was primarily a single story, but several years having elapsed, a second story was added. The first landlord was named Stillwell. John C. Dill was storekeeper in the early day, and among physicians were Drs. Ford, Smith, Hoover, Hostetter, Peck and Tillman.

- The first preacher at Beamsville was Rev. M. Wintermute, Baptist, who was succeeded by Rev. Seymour Craig. Rev. George Adams, Christian, came in 1848-49. The United Brethren Church was built some six years earlier than this later date. A township house was built here in 1874. The place contains two wagon-shops—one owned by J. Stagger, the other by William Price. There is also a cornet band of ten horns and two drums which enliven the evening hours with inspiring music. This band was organized in March, 1879, and is led by William Loundom and Frank Plessinger.

- The iron bridge over the Stillwater, just south of town, was constructed during the summer of 1878, and cost \$1,900, exclusive of masonry. Another iron bridge over the same stream, west of Beamsville, on the Dallas pike, cost \$2,100, besides mason work, and was erected in 1875.

Stelvideo, located near the center of the south line of Section 9, Range 3, Township 11 (the same being part of the boundary between Richland and Adams), is a small village, numbering 100 inhabitants. It was laid out in 1851, by Solomon Farmer, the present owner of 125 acres of land adjoining on the east. This person is now the oldest living resident of this vicinity, and one of the oldest in Richland. A few lots have been laid off since the original platting by George Hartell, Jr., but they are not in demand. Stelvideo is a station on the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railroad, surrounded by a fine farming country, well cultivated and profitably productive. The population is composed mainly of the owners of adjacent or adjoining farms. Its origin is thus denoted: About the time when the "Forty-niners" were en route, overland, to the gold fields of the far Pacific, John Patterson determined to realize his expectations nearer home. He had inherited a large farm, located east of Stelvideo. There being promise of quite a village here, Mr. Patterson bought a number of lots, erected a steam saw-mill, a two-story tavern, and induced the erection of several other buildings. These improvements were made in 1852 and 1853. Through correspondence with Alfred Brisbane, S. Andrews, Dr. Nichols and other noted Socialists, Stelvideo soon became a center for modern radicalism of all kinds, save and except free



love." Meantime, the dress-reform movement was being agitated by Amelia Bloomer and other ladies. The costume was generally adopted by the feminine population of this village. So many *isms* and *ologies*, so much amplitude in freedom and brevity in costume was obnoxious to the people resident in the neighborhood, who proceeded to make Patterson and his *confreeres* desirous of going elsewhere. The Pluribus Unum Hotel was vacated, several houses partially completed were left unfinished, the saw-mill and other property was disposed of at a sacrifice, and Mr. Patterson and his followers moved to Berlin Heights, in Huron County, where quite a colony of modern Liberalists of various phases assembled. They published a weekly newspaper, and, for a time, attracted popular attention.

The first house put up in the immediate vicinity of Stelvideo was by Jacob Hartell. The first schoolhouse near by was a small log structure which stood about fifteen yards east of the present brick house, on the Solomon Farmer place. The first Postmaster was Aaron Frampton. It is stated by Peter Brewer, who is the second oldest resident, that in the early days, the residents here were accustomed to go about sixteen miles to mill, to where the present Coppock Mill stands. Sometimes the trip was extended to near Milton, and on occasion to Union, not far from Dayton. The present smithy here was built as a carpenter-shop in 1866, by Peter Farmer; it was later used as a dwelling, and was finally, April 15, 1876, utilized by the present "village blacksmith," D. W. Inman, of whom it may be said:

"Week in, week out, from morn till night,  
You can hear his bellows blow."

And the distich is as applicable to him now and for four years past as ever it could have been to Longfellow's original.

There are no churches at this place. Dr. Ligafoo is the local physician. He was preceded by B. F. Zeller and Dr. Morrison, who was among the first doctors in this part of the township.

Messrs. Coppess, Brewer & Bro. are grain-dealers at the railroad warehouse. Their annual purchases range from fifteen thousand to twenty-five thousand bushels of wheat and a smaller quantity of corn. The Brewer Bros. also have a store, located just northeast from the railroad crossing. One of the brothers, Jessner, is the Postmaster here, the other, John, is station agent. The speedy lapse of time will soon have made the record of these now active a worthy remembrance, and events are only as yet in a formative state, hence the descriptions of the present will be the history of the near future.

## WAYNE TOWNSHIP.

This township is one of the oldest in the county, having been constituted at one of the first sessions of the County Commissioners, in July, 1817. Its name was suggested by the prominent position occupied by Gen. Anthony Wayne, in the latter part of the last century, in matters pertaining to the permanent security of such settlers as might desire to make their homes in this locality. When Wayne was laid off, it contained all of the county north of a line commencing at the northwest corner of Township 12 north, Range 1 east, and running thence east to the northwest corner of Township 9 north, Range 4 east, thence south to the middle of said township, and east to the county line. In 1819, that part of Wayne lying in Township 9 north, Range 4 east, was attached to Adams Township. A year later, and all of Wayne that lay in Range 1 was united to Washington Township. In 1820, Richland was formed, which was taken principally from Wayne, but partly from Greenville and Adams. In 1841, Patterson was taken from the north end of Wayne, and contained all of that township that lay in Townships 12 and 13, Range 3, and 11 and 12, Range 4.





The land is well watered and well drained. Its sections are traversed in a south of west course by the railroad, and supplemented to its fine farms are its villages, Versailles, Webster and North Jacksonville. In comparison with the townships heretofore named, Wayne is much the older, and, as is frequently the case, many of the settlers of Wayne migrating to the new townships became their pioneers. It is agreed that the first settler within the present limits of Wayne was David Ward, who, moving in from Covington, Miami County, in 1815, settled on land (more recently the property of Lewis Sherry), in Section 18. Ward had not long been established in his forest home when two neighbors moved in. Jacob Carlock entered land and made a clearing, where, in 1835, the village of Webster was laid out, and Zachariah Hole settled in the vicinity. Two years later, the population was increased by the arrival of Aaron Greer, Richard Brandon and Lewis Baker, and in 1818, Henry Swisher moved in, and was soon after made a Justice of the Peace, and so became the pioneer arbitrator of petty disputes. In addition to those named among the pioneers, may be given those of Peter Radabaugh, William McGriff, John Wyland, Thomas Bayman, N. York and Joseph McDonald. Allan Reed, who later became a merchant and engaged in business at Versailles, came to Wayne in 1821. The first white child born in the township was Dr. Stephen A. Greer, now living near Woodland, Patterson Township. The first man who died was named Atchison. The pioneer log school-house was erected about 1821. It is a cause of regret that so meager a record should be acquired of a township so prominent in the threefold interests of civilization, agriculture, education and religion.

During the war of 1812, and subsequently, an eccentric character by the name of Conner, and his son, occupied a cabin not far from the present site of Versailles. With an old ox, the boy tilled a little patch of corn, while Conner hunted deer and other game. When their supply of corn-meal was exhausted, the boy saddled up the old ox, threw a sack of corn over him, mounted the whole and started thirteen miles to Greenville Falls to mill. When night overtook him, he tied the ox, built a fire, cooked his supper, and lay down alone in the woods to sleep. Many anecdotes are told of Conner, one of which we insert:

A man by the name of Wyland moved to the Laramie settlement, and a number of men went from here to help him build his cabin; among those were Conner and Killbuck, an Indian chief, who concluded to remain in the neighborhood awhile, and have a good time. To aid in their happiness, they bought a half-gallon jug of whisky, started to the woods and made a camp. It snowed at night about six inches, and in the morning, Wyland saw a smoke in the woods, and wondering what it was, approached it, and found Conner and Killbuck asleep, with the jug of whisky on one side, and their moccasins hanging on a stick on the other, and their guns leaning against a tree. Creeping softly up, he took a good drink out of the jug and emptied the balance out, and put the moccasins in the fire, and retreated to the house. Wyland, watching them from the house, soon saw old Killbuck slowly raise up and brush the snow away and reach for the jug, turn it up to his lips, and dash it to pieces on the ground; then Conner and Killbuck both got up, went to their guns, reprimed them, turned their heads toward the cabin, and sat down by the fire. Presently old Killbuck started off through the woods barefooted to the settlement. Conner, on the contrary, started toward a thicket where he knew Wyland had a valuable sow and pigs. Wyland saw him, and his anxious ear soon heard the crack of his rifle followed by the squealing of a hog, yet was afraid to venture out, knowing Conner would shoot him as quickly as the hog. Shortly Conner returned to the fire, stirred it up, and after warming himself, started off through the woods after old Killbuck. Wyland went to the bushes and found his sow dead and partly skinned, and small pieces of hide lying around, the remains of a pair of moccasins Conner had made. About two weeks afterward, Wyland went to a Baptist meeting. In front of the "church" were two large logs. Wyland occupied one, and he was dismayed to see Conner approach





and deliberately take a seat opposite to him, cross his legs, and bring his foot in unpleasant proximity to his face. Looking down, what should he see but the black skin of his poor old sow ornamenting Conner's foot, which he persisted in putting in his face at every opportunity. As soon as the country began to settle up, Conner went further into the wilderness, and was never heard of again.

Jacob Garlock was the first settler at Webster, and came here in 1817. Stopped on Bald Hill and camped with old Killbuck two weeks. The first graves in the township were on this hill, in which a woman and two children were buried, in about 1817 or 1818.

The first colored man, George Davenport, came to this township in 1817. Previously to coming here, he was an itinerant pewter-spoon molder, and in his travels was accompanied by a dog, which the Indians stole, and he followed them to this part of the country, recaptured his dog, and was so highly pleased with the surroundings that he built him a cabin and remained here.

The little settlement now began to receive accessions. In the following year (1818), Henry Swisher and Aaron Grier came to this township, the former of whom was of a jovial and humorous disposition, and delighted to relate anecdotes of early pioneer life, many of which still survive and are repeated by those who had the pleasure of hearing them from his own lips. Soon following these, were Isaac Finkbone, whose prowess in the many pugilistic encounters in which he was engaged is well remembered by those who knew him; and Aaron Grier, who came in about 1818. Within two years, it had received Allen Reed, who located in Section 19, and a family of Holes, who filled a space in the forest. Leonard Hess came to this township in 1836, and is still living here, as are also Mr. Simon, who came from France in 1839, and first located in the northeast part of the township, where he remained five years, then removed to the southwest part, remaining one year; he came to Versailles, where he began business without capital and without knowing a word of English. When Mr. Simon first settled here, his nearest neighbor on the east was five miles, through the woods; one-half mile on the west, and two miles on the north and south, and L. R. Hugh, the oldest man in the township. Mr. H. retains all his faculties and jocosely boasts that he can outrun any man of his age (eighty-four) in the county. John J. Begien lives about three miles southwest of Versailles, aged eighty-six, and was a member of Napoleon's old army in France, an honor of which but few living men, in this or any other country, can boast.

Such were the men who penetrated these parts of nature, who courted the solitude of the illimitable forest, and we may add, in the words of Virgil: "They neither pined with grief, lamenting the poor, nor envied the rich: what fruits the boughs spontaneously yielded, they gathered; nor saw the iron-hearted laws, the madly litigious bar, or the public courts."

The Hardshell Baptists had a little church, the corner-stone of which is still to be seen in the yard of Dr. Gordon, of Versailles, in this township, and, it seems, their rules required every applicant for membership to give in a brief experience as a test of his fitness for admission.

A person, living up the creek, by the name of Stoner, it appears, notwithstanding his hard name, was a little soft. Nevertheless, he wanted to join the church. He rose in the congregation and thus began: "I got up this mornin', greased my shoes, combed my head and started to meetin'." As I was a comin' along, I saw a tree; I says to myself, Kin one man pull that ar tree up? No! Kin two men? No! Kin ten men? No! Kin twenty men? No! Kin God Almighty pull that tree up? Yes! I feel like suthin' is going to happen." He sat down. The preacher rose and said: "Brethren, extend the right hand of fellowship to Brother Stoner, for this is the true bleatin' of the lamb."

Frenchtown is a hamlet situated near the northwest corner of Wayne Township, at the center of Section 11, Range 3, and, as its name denotes, has a population largely composed of French. The oldest living settler is J. P. Berge, who migrated hither from Stark County in 1833, and entered an eighth-section of the



public lands. The people are quiet and industrious, frugal and enterprising, and give themselves little concern in regard to events which are remote from them.

There is built here a fine church, belonging to the Catholics, and valued at \$3,000. It stands upon land formerly owned by Jacob Subler. Part of the cemetery is upon land once the property of William Subler, and another part was owned by Catharine Subler. The present church edifice was built in 1866, at which time the Trustees were Joseph Beg, Henry Grilliot, George Grilliot and John B. Alexander. Father Kreush was then Pastor. A log church had stood on the same site for many years. The pioneer priest in this settlement was Father Navarron. A second church two and a half miles east of Frenchtown was built about 1848 and 1849. The following is illustrative of the times when these churches were being built: About seven miles east of Frenchtown, there was a settlement, then known as "Russia," and a wager of two gallons of whisky was laid between the church members of that locality and those of Frenchtown, to be claimed by the party that would get the first log of a certain size and length, hewed and in place. Frenchtown got the whisky. The first burial in the cemetery was Mrs. Peter Goffena, in 1842. The present Catholic priest is Rev. J. N. Borion. The membership of the church is over three hundred. A Catholic teacher is employed in the district school, whose average attendance is twenty-five. The first parsonage was built in 1850. The present parsonage is a neat brick cottage with pleasant grounds, and was built some few years ago. The first English teacher was B. Ward, about 1850. The principal store in the place, now kept by Michael Subler, was built in 1858, and has been used as a store from that time till now. Nicholas Krushet put in the first stock.

Versailles is the post town of Wayne Township. It was laid out by Silas Atchison in the year 1819, and at that time was known as Jacksonville. A school house was erected in 1821. There is now a good high school in the village. In 1820, the Baptists organized a society under the lead of Rev. Thomas Childers. Rev. Samuel Kyle, then resident near Piqua, Miami County, organized a Christian Church, and in 1823 a meeting-house was built by the Baptists, on land later owned by John Boyer, in Section 25. This church was the second one erected in the county. The Christians built about 1826, in Section 24, on land owned by William E. Larimore. There are a number of churches in the township, mainly at Versailles. The census of 1870 gave the population of Wayne as 1,983.

### ADAMS TOWNSHIP.

This township was erected in March, 1819, and contained all the land east of a line running south from the northwest corner of Section 4, Township 10 north, of Range 3 east, to the southeast corner of Section 28, Township 9, of Range 3. It was detached from the east end of Greenville Township and the south end of Wayne. In 1820, Sections 3, 4 and 10, of Township 10, Range 3, were taken into Richland Township. In June, 1838, all of Township 8, Range 3, and Township 8, Range 4, that was in Adams, was taken into a new township, which was entitled Van Buren.

The second permanent settlement in Darke County was made in Adams Township. In 1808, Abraham Studabaker, with his wife, settled on the bank of Greenville Creek, opposite the present site of Gettysburg, on Section 25, on land now owned by A. Stoltz. From what the writer can gather, Mr. Studabaker was the first white man that became a permanent settler of Adams Township, as we have no account of any before him, and none other till the close of the Indian war of 1812. Very soon after the cessation of hostilities, Maj. George Adams, who had served in the armies of Harmar and Wayne, came to the township, and, studying the needs of the pioneers and his own interest as well, erected a flouring-mill on Section 33, where now stands the mill of Stoltz & Coppess. This was





the pioneer mill of the county, and became known far and wide; and there are many of the pioneers now living who have a pleasing recollection of the gallant Major and his old-time mill. Their estimation was shown by the perpetuation of his memory in the name of the township in which he made his home.

It is said of Mr. Studabaker that he entered a quarter-section, and put up a cabin built of such poles as he could handle himself, for his nearest white neighbors were on the Stillwater, fourteen miles east, and at Fort Black, now New Madison, seventeen miles to the westward.

He had all his provision to carry on horseback from the Stillwater settlement, as there were no roads at that time. Indians were peaceable, but none the less an occasion of apprehension and distrust.

One morning, two Indians called at the cabin, and finding Mr. Studabaker had gone out to a piece of ground he was preparing for corn, demanded from his wife some bacon which she was preparing for breakfast. She refused to give it up, as it was part of the supplies brought from the Stillwater late the previous evening. One of the Indians seized the meat at one end, while she held fast to the other and cried loudly for help. The other Indian drew his knife and cut off the meat near her hand, and the two made off before her husband had time to come to her assistance.

The great thoroughfare of the Indians between Piqua and the Whitewater towns ran almost before his door, and, although they were not particularly hostile during the first years of his stay, they were troublesome. He brought with him a horse and a cow, and, some time after, his stock of animals was increased by the birth of a calf. During the first year, he partially cleared two acres, which he planted in corn. He had just got his little crop harvested, when his horse died of "milk sickness." In a short time, the calf was killed by the wolves. Hoping to catch some of these prowling beasts, he constructed a trap, and baited it with the remains of the calf. The cow, unluckily, was so overcome by curiosity as to put her head into the trap, which was sprung, and broke her neck.

For flour and meal, he was obliged to go to Milton, in Miami County. A journey to and from this mill occupied two days, even when the traveling was at its best. An incident will serve to illustrate the unpleasantness of the surroundings. In the winter, which was an unusually severe one, Mr. Studabaker started for the mill on Stillwater, at Milton. He had killed and dressed a hog the day before. He left his little family in the woods, with no neighbors nearer than Boyd's, in Greenville Township, on one hand, and, on the other, none between him and the Stillwater. In the night, a pack of wolves came around the house, and their howling was not calculated to lull the lonely wife and children to sleep. Suddenly, there came a smothered yell of pain and affright from a single wolf, and, immediately after, a chorus of yelling, snarling and yelping, as if pandemonium had broken loose. This lasted but a moment, when all became still. The silence lasted till morning. In the morning, Mrs. Studabaker opened the door, and there, within four feet of the threshold, lay a monster wolf, dead, and his protruding tongue was frozen fast to the ax which had been used to cut up the dead hog. It was supposed that this wolf, attracted to the ax by the bits of flesh and blood which adhered to it, had attempted to lick it, and the ax, being full of frost, caused his tongue to adhere, drawing from him a cry of pain, upon which the others set upon him and killed him. At all events, he was dead, and wolves never came near the house again.

The American panther (*Felis concolor*), or "painter," as it was called by the early settlers, a ferocious and dangerous animal, abounded in this region. Mr. Studabaker killed many of them during his residence here, and, on more than one occasion, came near losing his life in conflict with them. On one occasion, while working near the edge of his clearing, he saw an immense panther on the limb of a tree twenty-five or thirty feet from him, crouched ready for a spring. His rifle was standing by a stump within ten feet from him, but he dared not move or take





his eyes from his stealthy enemy. The enraged brute sprang into the air toward him with a thrilling cry. At the same instant, he sprang for his rifle, and, as the panther struck the ground exactly at the spot he had just quitted, he fired. The ball struck the animal in the front shoulder, passing completely through, and so disabled it that it could not renew the attack, but it made the most terrific struggle, uttering frightful screeches and yells, until Mr. Studabaker reloaded his rifle, when he took a more careful aim and ended the struggle. This was one of the largest of the species, measuring eight feet from "tip to tip."

Deer apparently shunned that immediate vicinity, although Mr. Studabaker frequently shot them in his clearing. But they were much more numerous in other localities, and the Indians gave as a reason the mysterious "belly-sick," which the whites called "milk sickness."

The Indians never molested Mr. Studabaker with any hostile intent. In 1811, when they became threatening, he built a substantial block-house and moved into it. With the exception of Andrew Rush and the Wilson girls, no murders were committed in the neighborhood during this period. They frequently called on Mr. Studabaker for refreshment, and were never refused. Whatever was set before them they took away with them, even to the dishes. They would eat all they could, and, according to the statement of many old settlers, no system of surface measurement would give any idea of a hungry Indian's capacity, and what they could not by any possibility eat they would stow about their persons and carry away. They were almost daily visitors during these years, but the uniform kindness and hospitality with which they were treated, it is thought, saved the Studabakers from their fury.

Tecumseh Laulewasikae, his father, Little Turtle, Black Hoof and other noted chiefs were frequent visitors. Tecumseh is described as a young man of grave, dignified, commanding presence, and appeared not only intelligent and courteous, but benevolent and humane. Sometime, while Mr. Studabaker was residing here, Tecumseh and his brother moved from their home near Greenville to escape the demoralizing effects of the whisky retailed to their people by Azor Scribner, who had a trading post at Minatown. The Indians of the neighborhood, it seems, would visit Scribner's once a week or oftener, for the purpose of obtaining whisky and ammunition, and on these occasions they often became noisy and boisterous, for it seems whisky had much the same effect on Indians it did on the whites.

On one of these occasions, a party of six Indians, who had been to Greenville and were returning, stopped to rest and regale themselves in Studabaker's clearing. It was a clear, moonlight night, and, as may be supposed, all their movements were noted. They first carefully hid their rifles and other arms, and then solemnly, one after another, drank from a large gourd, fashioned like a bottle, until they had emptied it. They then commenced whooping and yelling in a manner not calculated to be entertaining to the trembling auditors in the block-house not many yards distant. At last they engaged in a dance, which they continued until one after another fell to the ground in a drunken stupor. There they lay until morning, when they arose and commenced a search for their rifles. Two failed to find theirs, and it was evident by their gestures that neither they or the other members of the party were quite sure they had their rifles with them. A few years ago, the rusted remains of two rifles were found under a decayed log near the spot. The stocks were almost entirely gone, the barrels, locks, bands, etc., though badly rusted, were in tolerable state of preservation. The flints were in their place, and bullets were found in each of the barrels. It is likely these were the rifles so curiously lost on the occasion of that moonlight frolic sixty years before.

Soon after the breaking-out of hostilities, or even as early as the fall of 1811, nearly all the warriors left their haunts in this region. The noted and influential chiefs had joined the British at Detroit, or at their post on the Maumee. Consequently, the few pioneers in Darke County were unmolested during the war.



Here, then, the Studabaker family lived eight years, almost entirely cut off from communication with the world. There were, perhaps, six or eight families in and about Greenville, and the nearest of these was six miles distant.

David Studabaker, now living in Greenville Township, was born in the block-house, in 1814, and was the first white child born in the township.

Maj. Adams had seen hard service and perilous times. In one of the expeditions against the towns on the Maumee, while under Gen. Harmar, he received several bullets in his body and was left for dead on the field, but when the retreat began, his comrades, to save his body from mutilation, carried him with them. At their first halt, they dug a grave and were about to place him therein, when they detected faint signs of life. They gladly deferred the burial and worked zealously through the night, trying to restore their respected comrade to consciousness and life. Morning came, and, although still insensible, he breathed. He was carried the distance of another day's march, and again a grave was dug, as he was expected to die before morning. This was repeated, day after day, till the troops reached Fort Washington, but after lying thus unconscious for weeks, he finally fully recovered and took active part in Wayne's campaigns of 1793-94-95. It was while out scouting in the vicinity of Greenville that he became acquainted with the fine mill-site that he afterward occupied. Adams' mill turned out very coarse meal and very little of that. Wheat was also ground, but customers were obliged to bolt their flour by hand, and it would have satisfied any Grahamite to have used the product of the mill. Still, the mill was a popular resort, all the more so after a little grocery had been established, where whisky and tobacco were retailed. Here was a place at which shooting matches, quoit throwing and an occasional fist fight were common.

In 1816, Armstrong Campbell settled on Section 30, on land cleared by Studabaker, who, the same year, moved to Greenville. William Stewart also came in 1816, and located in the Studabaker opening, on Section 36, where Washington Cromer now lives. After this, the township settled rapidly. Adams was a genial, fun-loving man, widely known and deservedly popular; a crowd of congenial spirits gathered about him, and the little settlement took the name of "Adams' Mills," and when the township was finally organized, it was named in his honor. During the years 1816 and 1817, William Cunningham, Samuel Robinson, Barton Fairchild, Thomas McCune, Josiah Carr, John Meyer, Zadoc Reagan, Zachariah March and Ebenezer Byram, settled at and near New Harrison.

Early in the year 1812, Wilkinson, who was in command of the troops in this department, sent six soldiers to Studabaker's post, where they were stationed for some time, and it seems that they were under the immediate command of Mr. Studabaker. At this time, the block-house served as an inn, post of refuge, and official quarters, as well as the home of the family. On one occasion, five Indians were captured in their war paint, which Studabaker turned over to the officer in command, at Greenville. They subsequently escaped, and took their revenge by killing and scalping two soldiers near Fort Jefferson, named Stoner and Elliott. The war closing, Studabaker took a contract from the Government to feed the Indians until the consummation of the treaty. Upon the organization of Darke as a county in 1817, Mr. Studabaker was elected Commissioner four successive terms. Isaac Hollingsworth and Thomas Warren, were of the early settlers. John Reck settled in 1827, on land that is still owned by his son. It is located on both sides of the creek, on Section 36. Mr. Reck states that the wolves were very troublesome to the settlers. When a boy, he was followed many a time by a number of those animals, from near the little cemetery just west of Gettysburg, to near the door of his father's house. There is no account of injury done to persons, although stock not infrequently suffered. John and William Reck, Henry Weaver and Armstrong Campbell, built the first schoolhouse in the township. The house was erected in 1830, and stood upon the present site of the cemetery, near Gettysburg. The carpenter work was done by Michael Reck, then seventeen years old.





Samuel Horner was the first teacher. A subscription school, taught by Jacob Hersher, is said to have been the first in Adams Township. The first church was erected by the Lutherans, on land now owned by Francis Keefauver, in or about 1834. It is still standing. Besides this, there is Catholic Church at Bradford; a Presbyterian, a Methodist and a Lutheran, at Gettysburg; and a Dunkard, elsewhere in the township. New Harrison was laid out in 1837, by Samuel Robinson, who was the first Justice of the Peace in the township.

Between the years 1827 and 1831, quite a number of families emigrated from Adams County, Penn., and settled in the east central part of the township, where they laid out and built up the village of Gettysburg, which took its name from Gettysburg, Penn. The nominal founder of the village was John Hershey. The place was incorporated in 1866. Bradford was laid out in 1865, and duly incorporated in 1871. In 1830, Adams Township contained 529 persons, and, in 1870, 2,291. The topography of Adams Township may be gathered from the following description: It contains thirty-eight sections; the four southern tiers are six and a half miles in extent from east to west, and the two northern tiers four and a half, making the area thirty-five square miles. The southeastern corner of Richland Township takes the sections that shorten the northern tiers. Stillwater, Bolton's Run, Greenville and Harris Creeks traverse the township. The first-named enters near the center of the north line of Section 5, runs south and southeast in its general course about a mile, thence eastward a mile to the boundary of the township, between Sections 4 and 9. Bolton's Run enters at the northwestern corner of the township, runs southeast nearly two miles into Section 12, thence south of east one mile, thence in its general course east two and a half miles to the township line. Greenville Creek enters the township less than half a mile from the southeast corner, runs in a northwest course to New Harrison, thence southwest, thence north of east to Gettysburg, and through Stolbyz's addition, thence southeast near the line between the first and second tier of sections to the center of the northern part of Section 30, thence south, then nearly east, to the eastern boundary of said section, a little more than a half-mile from the southeast corner of the township. Two railroads cross Adams Township; they have an equal angle of divergence from Bradford, the C. C. & I. C. and the Pan Handle (old C., P. & I.), the first-named in a direction south of west past Gettysburg, below New Harrison, and thence to the southwest corner of the township; the second, in a direct line to Horatio, and leaving the township midway between that place and Stelvidio, in Richland Township.

The surface of Adams is rolling, being most uneven in the southwest portion. The southern portion has the darker, stronger soil. The timber is beech, ash, maple and hickory, principally the first named. The soil is well calculated for the raising of wheat and corn, as is evidenced by the shipment at Gettysburg, the last season, by E. George, of over 200,000 bushels of grain, in addition to which were heavy purchases at the same place by Messrs. Reek & Trump. Fruit is raised in moderation and occasional abundant yields have been gathered.

We learn, with reference to the early growth of New Harrison, that, in 1845, there were but a dozen families resident of the place, viz., Jacob Woods, John Battenburg, William Robinson, Jeremiah Shody, keeper of a tavern stand, Samuel Robinson, Calvin Horner, Jeremiah Shade (also keeper of an inn), Michael Stahl, Abraham Miller and William Hays. Of their houses, there are ten remaining. Such was the slow growth of the place in the interval from 1837 to 1845. At this later date, William Hays settled in Adams, in the village of New Harrison. In a family of eleven children, seven are living and active in life's duties. The old gentleman still occupies in content the hewed-log house that was standing when he came to the village. The old neighbors are now pretty nearly all gone, the only ones remaining being Abraham Miller and his wife. At the date of Hays' arrival, the wild nature of the country is shown by the statement that deer and turkeys came out into the clearing and even between the houses in daytime. On all sides





was the forest, and there was an unbroken stretch of seven miles northward in which there was not a single house as late as 1847. The people of New Harrison and Gettysburg went to Covington and to the "Falls" to mill—eight and nine miles distant. Adams' mill was too small and the quality too poor to obtain favor, save for grinding grists of corn. The first schoolhouse in this neighborhood was located on the farm of William Adams, about a mile west of New Harrison. It was of logs, on the pioneer plan, and is now in use as a dwelling. Samuel Robinson was one of the first teachers in it.

The Methodist Church at New Harrison was built about 1844, by Jacob Woods. It was a frame, was 40x50 feet in size, and stood on land donated by the builder. It was torn down several years ago.

A store was first kept in New Harrison by the village proprietor, Samuel Robinson, and then by Jacob Woods. Rev. Sharp, a Christian minister, was the pioneer blacksmith of the place, and was engaged at the forge between the years 1841 and 1844.

Tavern-keeping was first done by Gideon Level, who, in 1845, sold to Jeremiah Shade. Various changes have occurred till the property, now owned by J. F. Winner, is in use as a saloon and drinking resort. J. Miller, blacksmith, Aaron Welbaum, wagon-maker and grocery-keeper, are recently engaged in their business. No physician has been located here since the war. Dr. H. W. Corwin practiced and lived here from 1842 to 1844, and prior to the earlier date, a botanic physician had practiced here, known as Barker—a dealer in "roots and herbs." After Dr. Corwin, came Drs. Williams, Jenks, McElroy, Harbison and Greer. The village answers well its purpose as a convenient locality for accommodation of surrounding population.

We have spoken incidentally of Gettysburg and the origin of its name. Here are located the Premium Flour Mills, with four runs of stone, a capacity of 100 barrels per day and a manufacture of 40,000 bushels of wheat into flour annually, beside supplying a market for 150,000 bushels of grain.

John Hershey built the first house in the village, a tavern, which stood on the present site of Dr. Campbell's residence. Among the pioneer efforts in Gettysburg was the store of James Auld, started in a log house, where Mr. Keefauver now lives. Mr. Auld, in 1840, built a brick store building on the southwest corner of Main and Bridge streets, and moved into it his stock. Later, he occupied a small house directly across Main street, where are now Hershey & Dorwin.

A saddler-shop and cabinet-shop were started at an early date. John Stolz, in 1845, was the saddler, a business now done by Charles Naylor.

Blacksmithing was done by Henry Cohn, in 1842, in a frame building: some six years later, he erected a brick shop on the old site, on the south side of Main and east of Bridge street. Ten years later, he died, and the shop was enlarged, remodeled and changed into a dwelling, now owned by Mrs. Cohn.

The first schoolhouse in the village was of brick, and was located on Corwin street. It was built some thirty years ago, and is now in use as a dwelling. The present schoolhouse was erected in 1866, at a cost of nearly \$5,000. Samuel Paulding had the contract for the woodwork. Rev. Jackson was the first teacher therein. His successors have been Dr. Newcomb, William Stone, Simeon Robinson, Mr. Graves, Cyrenius Tyrrell, William McKee, Mr. Schell, J. E. Polley, Edward Lockett, Samuel Brumbaugh, J. E. Laurence and Rev. C. W. Choate. In fourteen years, almost as many different teachers—a lesson on the mutability of teaching, as unstable as the everchanging circuit of the old itinerant preachers. The above record should teach a judicious selection and a permanent employment to realize the full advantages possible to be derived from free schools.

The first Postmaster of Gettysburg was James Auld. The office had been kept at New Harrison, but, in accordance with a petition presented, it was removed to this place and Mr. Auld was appointed. He and Dr. Corwin drove over and brought the effects of the office to the village. One Barrett had the contract to



carry the mail from Greenville to Troy. This was before the turnpikes were built. When there was good weather and the roads were tolerable, Barrett drove a two-horse vehicle, at other times he went on horseback. Mr. Auld was also the first Justice of the Peace in Gettysburg. One of the first cases that came before him was of interest to the community. It grew out of a trade in horses, in which one party thought himself badly cheated. Attorneys were engaged from Shelbyville and Piqua, and the inexperienced Justice was confused and bewildered by the amount of rhetoric and argument. He recovered, and by the aid of native good sense was enabled to render an equitable decision. Soon after, a burglar, who had raided a store in Hillsdale, was arrested a short distance east of Gettysburg, brought to the village and tried before the Squire. He was tried, bound over, sent to the penitentiary, served his time, and within a month after his release, had burglarized the residence of the father of Dr. Corwin, in Bellefontaine.

A bridge across Greenville Creek, at this village, was begun in the fall of 1876, by the Cincinnati Bridge Company, and was finished in 1877. Its cost was about \$5,000.

The village has a population of about two hundred. A town hall is located on the east side of Bridge street, near Corwin street. It was built about ten years ago.

There are two churches in Gettysburg, the Methodist Episcopal and the Presbyterian. The church edifice of the first-named was built in the spring of 1875. It formerly stood two miles southeast of town on the farm of Ch. Hershey, whence it was removed and remodeled at the time above stated. It was moved by Silas Reck, and located upon land purchased for \$200 from Mrs. Jane Harmer. The first minister was Rev. Valentine Staley, followed by Benjamin Powell, R. D. Oldfield, and by the present incumbent, George Matthews. The first Sabbath-school here was superintended by J. Hershey, who, save two terms, has been continuously in service to this time. W. Reck was the first Secretary. The membership is seventy-five. The building owned by the Presbyterians was built in 1847 or 1848, and is located at the west end of Corwin street. It is of brick, in size 40x55 feet. Those prominent in building were William Carr, John Meyer, Alexander Horner and Dr. Darwin. The lot was donated by Mr. Horner. The number of members at the present time is about sixty. The first Pastor was Rev. Thomas Elcock, now of Van Wert. Among other Pastors have been Revs. Alexander Gulick, John W. Drake, W. E. Hill, W. H. Moore, Rev. Wyckoff, and the present Pastor, L. E. Jones. The Superintendent of the Sabbath-school is Rev. C. W. Choate. Bradford is an enterprising and thriving village of about eighteen hundred population, about eight hundred of whom reside upon the west side of the creek, in Darke County. The first house built in West Bradford was erected by John S. Moore in 1868. The first grocery was kept by Routzong & Moore, and stood in 1869 on the corner of School street and Miami avenue. The pioneer blacksmith was Joseph Lefler. The village has the usual number of shops, stores and like local industries, which go to make up its business interest. A medium-sized Catholic Church stands in the southwestern part of the village. It was built in 1875. The first Pastor was Father Shelhamer. There are two hardware stores and a saw and planing mill. This last is owned by William Stover & Co., who took possession in September, 1878. The building is two stories, 50x75 feet. The capacity of the mill is about six thousand per day of twelve hours. Engine, fifty horse-power. Besides the saw-mill there is machinery adapted to woodworking in general. The mill was established by Reck & Marland in 1870, but has known much improvement and enlargement since. It is located west of Miami avenue and south of the railroad. Within the last year, 300,000 feet of walnut lumber have been shipped and sold from this mill, most of which went to supply New York and other Eastern markets. Prior to the erection of a new schoolhouse, the children attended District No. 2, one mile west of town, at which school J. W. Cable was the first teacher. The first





schoolhouse on the west side was constructed in 1876. The contractors were Dennis Dwyer and George Manix. The cost of the structure was about \$28,000. It is four stories high, including the basement. Its ground dimensions are 75x56 feet, with two towers additional, 22-feet-square base and 70 feet altitude. The building is finished in fine style, and is an ornament to the town. A hall in the fourth story is well furnished, and will seat 600 persons. There is a good school bell, and heating is done by steam. The school enumeration is 410. The present School Board are Solomon Routzong, D. J. Smith, William Weaver, N. Iddings, Valentine Staley and R. T. Hughes. D. S. Myers has been Superintendent from the first, a fact creditable to all parties. The other teachers have taught the same period. They are M. J. Hunter, Mrs. D. S. Meyers, Miss Minnie Garber, Miss Clara Gulick and Miss Jennie Baumgardner.

The corporation is a unit ; that is, there are not two sets of civil officers, and there is but the one post office, which has been shifted from one side to the other according to caprice and political supremacy. Moore was Postmaster in 1869 ; then W. H. Sowers held the office, which was then removed to the east side, where it has since remained. The first Mayor of Bradford was Peter H. Smith ; Clerk, Ed. Davidson ; Marshal, George Doll. The present officers of Bradford are : J. A. W. Smith, Mayor ; M. J. Williamson, Clerk ; H. W. Smith, Marshal ; and the members of the Council are D. J. Smith, John Gettz, and Messrs. Beck, Kinney and J. M. Fink. For a place of recent growth, West Bradford has shown much promise, and the township of Adams, in its early and later settlement, has evidenced much of enterprise and vigor.

#### GREENVILLE AND GREENVILLE TOWNSHIP FROM 1840.

If there ever was a time in the history of this nation when stagnation was wide-spread, and indeed almost universal, it was between 1840 and 1848. Darke County could not be said to be an exception to the general rule in this regard. No public works whatever, worthy of mention, were begun or carried forward within the period named, save and except the building of the second county jail. It is true, a railroad charter was secured, as elsewhere mentioned in its proper place in this work, but nothing was done in the way of construction until late in the fall of 1848, and the summer of 1849. There was but little progress, comparatively. Still the county was moving on its way. Farmers were improving their farms, but the recompense for their labor was not sufficient to stimulate ambition. There were no railroads, no turnpikes, and no conveniences to facilitate business that at all compare with what were soon after instituted and enjoyed. The nearest markets were Dayton and Piqua, and the best prices that could be obtained for produce frequently amounted to but little more than the labor and expense of hauling the same from the more remote sections of the county. An anecdote illustrative of this is worth recording in this connection. A Dunkard, whose name we shall not give, but who will be remembered by some of the older readers of these lines, took three wagon-loads of wheat to Piqua—it having been noised abroad that that place could and would and did pay better prices just then for grain than Dayton or any other market hereabouts. Arriving there, he found the price had suddenly gone down, like the mercury before a chilling blast, and in his unqualified disgust, he forgot that he was or ever had been a Dunkard, and gave the town a sound berating, more profane than sanctimonious. He was compelled to sell one load in order to pay his teamsters and the other current expenses, but declared that he would never sell another bushel of anything in that town, and would wait for the railroad, if it didn't come for five years. Emphasis was added to the assertion by the fact that the other two loads were drawn back to Darke, and by the further fact that he never again took an ounce of anything to sell to the market that had so provoked him to the use of words specifically disapproved by the





tenets of his religious faith. It is true he sold to a purchaser at his own home, but he "waited for the wagons" drawn by steam.

Private enterprises, in sympathy with those of a public character, progressed slowly during this period of national prostration, financially speaking. Within the limits of the corporation, as of the county, no improvements were made of sufficient moment to be made a part of history. There were no changes in the limits of Greenville, except some subdivisions of additions previously laid off, and the change of outlots to inlots. The merchants and manufacturers of the place kept on the even tenor of their way, without attempting especially great things in their lines.

But "a day of better things" had almost dawned, and, as the following paragraphs abundantly show, the county and its principal town soon moved onward in an unbroken career of progressive achievement.

Greenville, in 1848, contained 2,000 inhabitants. There were three dry-goods stores, four groceries, and no saloons. Liquors were sold at some of the groceries, and at the bars of three hotels—the Broadway Hotel, by Charles Hutchins, the Buckeye, by J. L. Winner, and by J. R. King, of the King House. There were three churches—the Methodist, Presbyterian and the New Lights. That part of town that now lies south of Fourth street was almost all covered with a thick undergrowth of timber, and where the court house and jail now stand, water stood the greater part of the year, and supplied a favorite resort for sportsmen in pursuit of the wild duck and the pigeon. The leading doctors were I. N. Gard, Ayres, Lynch and Koogler, and turnpikes were unknown.

In 1850, Brown & Glines were engaged in tailoring, Schmidt & Knox as druggists, A. La Mott & Co. in the dry-goods and grocery business, Weston & Ulley were in the hardware trade, and William Allen was agent of the Knox Insurance Company. Sarah and Ruth Edwards kept a millinery store opposite the M. E. Church, and E. M. Hoffman was in the book trade on Main street. The business houses were actively and prosperously employed.

In 1860, the town had made striking and gratifying progress. Three important railroad lines had been constructed, four turnpike roads had been built, and, diverging from the county seat, connected with as many thriving and prosperous villages. The population had increased: two good newspapers, the *Democrat* and the *Journal*, were being published, each with about eight hundred patrons, and then, in the midst of this satisfactory growth, war broke in and engrossed attention.

Again, this time in 1869, we survey the prospects of the city. Never in its previous history had the town made such rapid advance in the construction of new buildings. In May of this year, there were over sixty buildings in course of construction or of remodeling. A foundry and machine-shop was erected and put in operation by Messrs. James McKhan, A. T. Bodle and John Stoltz, on Third street. A building and loan association was organized and in full operation, stimulating and aiding in the building of homes. Messrs. Linderworth & Winget were busy running their planing-mill. The German Reformed congregation had bought the Presbyterian Church, on Broadway and Fourth streets. Streets had been graded, the question of a park was mooted, and, while teachers' institutes indicated interest in education, popular attention was being directed to the public schools.

The town had become now, if not before, a prominent business commercial center, with rich and wealth-producing surroundings. The principal merchants of this time were La Mott & Farver, also, in the fur trade: Sumter & Compton, F. & J. Waring, Workman & Daily, Hart, Arnold & Co.; G. B. Wilson kept a book store on the corner of Main street and the public square, and John Van Mater was successor to Schmidt & Knox. There were dissolutions of old partnerships and new combinations. There was selling out and moving in—all the changes incident to vital energy, restless activity, dissatisfaction and plucky hopefulness, while some



flow, continued year after year in one place, in the same business, and, in time, became known and prosperous. A large, artistic school building attracted the eye, and exerted an attractive influence on the stranger. Along the broad streets were lines of shade-trees. Old structures were demolished, and upon their sites rose new ones. In June, there were in process of erection twenty-three dwellings, and a number more were contracted for the near future. In the line of manufacture, there was the steam planing-mill of Messrs. T. P. Turpen, William Kerr and M. C. Benham: on the first floor were four machines, a planer, rip and other saws, operated by Messrs. Wallace and Mills. There were turning rooms, cabinet finishing rooms, and on the second floor were seven machines in use for finishing. The buoyancy of hopeful expectation lent courage to business men and professionals and to citizens, and in both public and private concerns the county seat felt the healthful stimulus of trade and improvement in the county, and maintained its supremacy unbroken. An event calculated to exert a potent influence on the fortune of Greenville transpired in the spring of 1877. On more than one occasion, citizens of large tracts of closely built cities have been alarmed by claims to the ownership of their lots, and to this Greenville was another instance. Samuel and James Armstrong, of Cincinnati, two brothers, sons of the early proprietor of Greenville, and owners of considerable real estate about the city, put in the market sixteen acres at \$15,000. This was laid off in the south-middle part of the town, streets were graded, and already full half the area is occupied by good residences. The Armstrongs still hold over an hundred acres. Railroads and the schools take off a part. In 1859, four acres were condemned by the city and appropriated for school sites, upon which the present imposing and roomy structure stands. The brothers left Greenville in their boyhood and returned about 1850, to assert that lands in the city were held by a defective title, that the right of ownership was in their hands, and they served a notice of ejectment upon persons residing upon the disputed lands. The citizens employed able attorneys, and the litigation continued four or five years, at considerable expenditure of money. The prospects were dark and discouraging, when aid came from an unexpected quarter. The son of a former Sheriff, at Troy, Miami County, while looking over the papers of his father, espied an old receipt with the name of Armstrong attached. This paper was promptly sent to the city's attorneys, at Greenville, and proved to be a receipt for the final payment on the disputed territory. This, being adduced as evidence, decided the case and gave the citizens security.

In 1831, Moses Hart, Esq., erected a steam flouring-mill, which was put in motion by the proprietors, Messrs. Turner. The millwright work was done by D. R. DeRush, of Preble County. The mill had a capacity to grind and pack 150 barrels of flour per day. This improvement noted here was at the time spoken of as one of the most important thus far made in the county. At the commencement of business, numbers of citizens were assembled and expressed their gratification at the result. This, in connection with the building of five large, commodious business houses, each of three stories, dwellings in process of construction and churches contracted, marks one of the most favorable crises of the city. The old court house stood in the center of the capacious public square, and as a new house was imperative to meet the demands of a greatly increased official business, and to make a proper representation of Darke County, a dispute arose among citizens generally, and the business men located about the square, concerning the location of the new house. In 1874, it was intended to leave the old walls of the court house standing, and to build a vestibule tower to them, which would make the building the same as at present, but after the tower was built, excavation having been made for a basement, a wet time set in, during which the rain undermined a corner of the building, it settled, and an ominous crack showed the necessity of pulling it down, which was done, and the present handsome structure was erected, and is known and used as the city hall. It is of two stories, sixty-five feet square, a hall above, and Mayor's office, engine room and election room below. The





contract for building was let to R. L. Robinson, A. P. Gorsuch being Mayor at the time. The cost was about \$14,000.

There are in this new-old town a number of houses which have stood many years, and are, for this reason, noticeable. One of these stands on the north side of the public square, and is in use as a livery stable. It is a brick structure, among the very first erected here. The brick structure of John Hoofnagle, built by Dr. Perrine, many years ago; the brick house of Dr. Briggs, now occupied by J. R. Knox, his son-in-law; the Wagner House, with timely additions, stands as one of the first in town, and still in use according to the original purpose, and the "poor house," now occupied by T. P. Barkalow, and situated on the west end of Main street, are examples of structures of the earlier day. Prominent even in the present, they were doubtless imposing in the past, and stand as monuments of an earlier enterprise.

Greenville has many fine residences, of which brief mention is here made of notable examples. The home of Charles Roland, at the west end of Fourth street, is a handsome dwelling, with tasteful grounds. It was built at a cost of \$10,000, by E. C. Shay, in 1871. In 1861, William King built on Main street, at a cost of about \$5,000, the residence of Michael Miller. In 1876, E. C. Shade erected the building on East Main street, occupied by Daniel Harney. Judge D. L. Meeker is now having built a residence, which, when completed, will be the finest in the county. Among others to attract the attention are the homes of Dr. G. Meesie, West Third street, and of G. W. Studabaker.

The fire department of the city is of recent date, and all the more complete and reliable. Previous to its organization, Greenville was dependent upon voluntary aid of citizens, as occasion required. On December 13, 1855, the Buckeye House took fire in the third story and burned to the ground. The night was favorable to the people, the air was quiet, and a rain had wet adjacent roofs, and these concurring circumstances confined the conflagration to the one building. Fears of a general destruction of property induced the removal of goods from the stores on the east side of Broadway, from the square to Third street. Goods were damaged, but the losses were covered by insurance. The house was owned by John L. Winner, and, as there was no insurance, the loss to him was heavy. The citizens, who had put forth strenuous exertions to restrict the fire to the hotel, congratulated themselves on their success. Meetings were held shortly after this experience, for the purpose of purchasing a hand fire-engine and organizing a company, but the excitement soon died away and nothing was done. A destructive fire early in 1871 again awakened public sentiment to the necessity of having some efficient protection, and led to the ordinance creating the fire department.

The ordinance creating and regulating the Greenville Fire Department was passed by the Council on June 1, 1871. A Silsby steamer, entitled "Greenville," and two hose carts were purchased at a cost of \$7,200. A company was enrolled, of which H. K. McConnell was Chief; P. P. Turpen, First Assistant; Frank E. Moore, Second Assistant; John C. Turpen, Secretary; D. M. Stevenson, Treasurer, and E. J. Hickox, Engineer. Ten months later, the last named resigned to accept the position of Marshal, to which he had been elected, and Mahlon Swartz succeeded as engineer till November, 1878, when Mr. Hickox assumed the position, which he has since held. J. L. Bascom was appointed Assistant Engineer February 1, 1877. The present officers of the Greenville Fire Department are: Chief, J. H. Rice; First Assistant, A. H. Hyde; Second Assistant, J. P. Winget; Secretary, Jonas Hahn; Treasurer, M. Huhn; Engineers as stated. The department has 1,500 feet of first-class hose, and 600 feet of second-class. The engine-house is in the rear of the City Hall, and is 22x45 feet, with thirteen-foot ceiling, plastered neatly wainscoted in oak and walnut, and numerous pictures hang upon the walls, and adding to the attractiveness of the room. It is claimed for the "Greenville" that the steamer has projected water twenty feet higher than the eagle above the dome of the new court house, or about one hundred and ninety





set perpendicularly, and that water has been thrown by it 275 to 280 feet horizontally, and much confidence is based on her power when needed in extremity. In 1871 and 1874, at well-remembered fires, the department, with their steamer, confined the flames to narrow limits, and prevented what might have been, otherwise, disastrous fires. There are three Fire Wardens. The members of the company receive pay when on duty, filling cisterns, etc., by order of the Council. The salary of the engineer is \$50 per month, and of his assistant, \$35. The water supply is furnished from five cisterns, as follows: Public square, corner of Ash and East Main streets; corner of Third and Broadway, corner of Third and Locust, corner of Main and Elm, and on the corner of Elm and Fourth streets. The present Wardens are Daniel Murphy, Alexander Harter and Joseph Saettle.

*The Greenville Gas Company* is another public improvement, contributing greatly to the comfort and convenience of the population, and handsomely rewarding the projectors of the enterprise. The Greenville Gas Company, of Greenville, was incorporated June 11, 1874, by C. Calkins, Charles Roland, John L. Winner and Wesley Gorsuch. The capital stock is \$30,000, divided into 600 shares of \$50 each. The first annual election of officers, held June 17, resulted in the choice of Hon. William Allen, President; John Devor, Secretary; J. T. Meeker, Treasurer, and for Directors—Messrs. Allen, Devor, Moore, Meeker and Cole. In 1877, Elijah Devor superseded H. M. Cole as Director. In 1878, J. A. Ries succeeded Mr. Moore, and Mr. E. Devor became Treasurer, vice Meeker. On January 17, 1880, Hon. William Allen was President; John Devor, Secretary; Elijah Devor, Treasurer. These three gentlemen own the greatest part of the stock. A contract to build works was completed with Messrs. Connelly, Naylor & Co., of Pittsburgh, Penn., for \$27,000. Ground was broken April 1, 1875, and the work was completed by August 17 of the same year.

The company has four miles of main pipe, and eighty-nine street lamps in use, at \$2.50 per month each, and 180 customers, at \$3 per thousand feet, with a reduction for prompt payment. The average of private consumption is 100,000 feet per month. There are six retorts, but only three are required to furnish the above supply. The gasometer measures thirty-eight feet in diameter by twelve feet in height.

Railroads have done much for Greenville, as the city contributed much to secure their assistance. The old depot was located on part of Lot 21, near to the Christian Church, on Walnut street. It is still standing, but not occupied. The new depot is a fine frame building, situated at the intersection of Walnut, Jackson and Martin streets, on a part of Jackson street vacated for the purpose and donated by the city to the company. It was built by J. J. Bloomer, of Indianapolis.

The Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati & Indianapolis depot, a frame, was built in 1867, at a cost of \$4,000. Its dimensions are 72x42 feet. Frank McWhinney was the builder and owner. The old depot, now standing about one hundred rods west, was abandoned on completion of the new structure.

The benevolent secret organizations of Greenville are comprised in three associations, of which we have the following record:

*Greenville Lodge, No. 143, F. A. M.*, reaches into the past thirty-three years. On July 3, 1847, John C. Potter, Elias Brumager, William Schmidt, David Beers, William M. Wilson, Adam Koogler, Simon B. Carey and John Tomlinson, all Master Masons, met and resolved that an application should be made for a charter to the Grand Lodge of Ohio. Thereupon, a petition to that effect was prepared and signed by the above-named brethren, and subsequently by John Sweetzer, R. D. Oldfield and A. W. Sanford. This application was recommended by Ward Lodge, No. 24, of Piqua, Ohio, and July 24, 1847, a dispensation was issued to the above-named brethren by George Keiffer, D. G. M. of the Grand Lodge, Bro. W. M. Wilson to be first W. M.; John Tomlinson, S. W., and Adam Koogler, J. W. On the 20th of October, 1847, a charter was duly signed and sealed by the Most Worshipful Master of the Grand Lodge, to the brethren above named, constituting



them the Greenville Lodge, No. 143. F. and A. M. The following tabular statement shows who have filled the office of Worshipful Master in the lodge since the date of the charter: W. M. Wilson, 1847 to 1849; John Tomlinson, 1849 to 1850, and 1851 to 1858; O. A. Lyman, 1850 to 1851; W. C. Porterfield, 1858 to 1859; Moses Hart, 1859 to 1860; C. G. Matchett, 1860 to 1861, 1865 and to 1872, 1873 to 1875; L. S. B. Otwell, 1861 to 1865; F. E. Manes, 1872 to 1873; A. J. Arnold, 1875 to 1879, and M. F. Allen, 1879. The present number of members is ninety-four. This lodge is one of the most flourishing and best furnished in the United States.

*Greenville Chapter, No. 77*, was chartered October 17, 1857. It is one of the best-working and most prosperous chapters in the country. It has eighty-seven members. The following presents, in order of service since the date of the charter, the names of those who have officiated as High Priest: W. M. Wilson, 1857 to first election; A. P. Gorsuch, December, 1857, to 1861; E. B. Putnam, 1861 to 1865; C. G. Matchett, one year; W. H. Matchett, 1866 to 1870; Mr. Gorsuch, one year; C. G. Matchett, one year; E. J. Hiecox, 1872 to 1873; W. H. Matchett, three years; C. G. Matchett, 1876 to 1878, and W. H. Matchett, 1878, and yet presiding.

*Greenville Council* was chartered in October, 1878. C. G. Matchett, T. I. M.; G. D. Farrar, D. M., and A. J. Arnold, C. O. W.

Education in Greenville at an early day received but little attention. There were schools in churches and other localities by various persons. Two ordinary brick houses were built about 1839 or 1840. Some desired to unite effort and build one good house, but this was overruled, and two buildings were erected. One stood on the lot numbered 13, granted by the county in lieu of the lot sold by the Commissioners by mistake. These lots were sold a few years since. Of the teachers were John Talbert, John Beers, H. D. Williams, persons who, according to method prevailing, taught three-months winter schools. In 1851, the first effort was made to grade the Greenville school by Ebenezer Bishop, who was employed at \$400 a year to take general charge of the school. This effort was only partially successful, and the schools were afterward organized in four grades, and for a number of years were successfully conducted under A. T. Bodle, L. S. B. Otwell, F. Matchett (now deceased) and G. H. Martz, all efficient teachers. Mr. Mays, of Troy, Ohio, was afterward employed as Superintendent, the school was graded, and has been conducted as a graded school in charge of a superintendent to date. J. W. Legg, of Van Wert; William T. Wallace, of Columbus; Alexander Miller, deceased; J. W. Muck, E. J. Macomber, J. S. Wilson and J. T. Martz have respectively superintended the same, and the school has had a constant growth in numbers and efficiency. The Greenville High School was organized in 1868. Henry Gunder, Superintendent of the public schools of North Manchester, Ind., was the first teacher. He is a self-made man, is thorough in his explanations and practical in their application. G. S. Harter, now a teacher in the Dayton High School, had charge of the Greenville High School for four years, and though he had but little experience in teaching when he assumed the responsible position, by perseverance, diligence and strict attention to his schoolroom duties, he soon established himself as a successful teacher.

In August, 1862, being then only sixteen, Mr. Harter enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Tenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served through the war. In the battle of the Wilderness, in the spring of 1864, he was taken prisoner by the rebels, and for four months suffered the horrors of Andersonville, and for three months more those of Florence Prison. Upon his liberation on December 7, 1864, he was found reduced to a living skeleton by exposure and starvation, and was sent home to die. Under careful medical treatment he recovered, returned to his regiment, and, in June following, was mustered out of the service. His education was obtained in a two years' course at Heidelberg College, Tiffin, and a five years course at Western Reserve College, Hudson, Ohio, from which latter





institution he graduated in the summer of 1875. He is a close student, and is devoted to his profession. E. B. Seitz, now Professor of Mathematics in the State Normal School at Kirksville, Mo., had charge of the mathematical department of the Greenville High School for several years, and was a member of the Board of County School Examiners during this time. He took a mathematical course in the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, Ohio, leaving that institution in the summer of 1870, and has been following the profession of teaching since that time. Mr. Seitz possesses very superior mathematical talent; has a special fondness for this branch of study, and has already taken rank as one of the very finest mathematicians of the State, for we still claim him. He is, moreover, a contributor to the leading mathematical journals of the country, among them the *Analyst*, the *Mathematical Visitor*, and the *Educational Times*, of London, England. He is a close student, a fine reasoner, and perfectly at home in the mathematical and scientific, as well as the astronomical field.

C. H. Frizell, one of the present teachers in the High School, was born in the town of Greenville. His father was Colonel of the Eleventh and Ninety-fourth Regiments Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Our teacher's parents are both dead. He entered the Naval Academy, at Annapolis, Md., but, his health failing, he was compelled to resign his position. His education was principally obtained in the school which he is now teaching, and the facilities there offered enabled him to obtain a thorough knowledge of the sciences and mathematics, as well as a familiar knowledge of the Latin and German languages. He is thorough and practical in his teaching, mild but firm in his methods of government, and has secured the confidence and esteem of his pupils.

H. L. Frank, also teacher in the high school, was born in Darke County. Having a desire to obtain a good education, he repaired to Otterbein University, at Westerville, Ohio, and completed a six-years classical course, graduating with honors in June, 1876. He has taken a complete course in mathematics and the languages, is a good scientific and classical scholar, and is familiar with the branches he teaches. He was promoted from a lower grade in the Greenville school to his present position, and has sustained himself in both grades.

The Greenville High School was organized in 1868. It now enrolls over one hundred pupils, and is in a prosperous condition. The room is furnished with ninety-eight single seats and desks for pupils, two teachers' desks and an organ which cost \$175. It is the largest and best furnished school room in the county. Of the pupils attending, sixty-two studied United States history; ten physiology; nine, physical geography; fifteen, natural philosophy; twenty, German; thirty-two, algebra; fifteen, geometry; eight, trigonometry; seventeen, Latin; two, Greek; thirteen, Constitution of the United States; ten, chemistry; eleven, geology; ten, botany; eight, book-keeping; ten, surveying; thirteen, astronomy, and two, meteorology. The school building was completed in 1868. It covers an area of twenty-four and one-half square rods, is three stories high, contains seven rooms exclusive of the basement, the laboratory and Superintendent's room. The building contains over seven hundred and twenty-three thousand bricks, and was erected at a cost of \$25,000, exclusive of heating apparatus and gas fixtures. The basement contains the coal-room, janitor's workroom and furnace and boiler. The entire building is heated by steam supplied from this boiler, which is twenty-six feet in length, four feet in diameter, and contains a capacity of seventy barrels of water. The heating apparatus has not given general satisfaction, because of the want of proper arrangement of the heating surface, and the school board has been at a heavy expense yearly in increasing the heating surface, and making the necessary repairs. Citizens have also objected to the location of the boiler in the basement of the building, deeming it unsafe; and the intention is to remove it at the close of the present school year. The laboratory contains over \$500 worth of philosophical and chemical apparatus, and the Board of Education has placed in the library the Revised American Encyclopedia, and Webster's Unabridged





Pictorial Dictionary, at a cost of \$104. The rooms are supplied with the necessary globes, outline maps, charts, cubical blocks, etc., and the school is in a prosperous condition. Within the past year, the board has placed a neat, substantial iron fence around the school lot, at an expense of \$1,975, while the lot, containing over four acres of ground, has been set in costly shade trees, making it thereby both pleasant and attractive to the pupils. At present, there are fourteen grades in the school, with a total enrollment of 900 pupils. Many non-resident students avail themselves of our school facilities, and the tuition paid into the treasury from this source has been over \$2.50 per year, exclusive of the amount received from the normal school.

The average cost of running the school one year may be summed up as follows: General expenses, including janitor's salary and his fuel, \$1,313; coal, for furnace, \$460.70; salary of seventeen teachers, \$7,365; total cost of school one year, \$9,138.70.

The building and grounds are in charge of Harvey Tucker, the janitor, who is also the engineer. He is a practical workman, diligent and careful in the discharge of his duties, is an ingenious mechanic: makes the erasers as well as the blackboards in the school building, and thus saves the board many items of expense. His salary is \$40 per month, with his house rent and wood furnished. The Board of Education has also provided a fund which furnishes books for those pupils whose parents are unable, financially, to get the same, and thus no child is deprived of the advantages of education which the school affords.

The Greenville Board of Education consists of six members. L. E. Chenoweth, the President, is a young attorney of marked ability. His father is a resident of Washington Township, this county; is one of its pioneer settlers and has been a Justice of the Peace for many years. At the breaking-out of the rebellion in the spring of 1861, Mr. Chenoweth, though attending school at the time, resolved in his own mind that his first duty was to his country, and, with fourteen students of the same school, offered his services to the Government. He enlisted as a private in Company E, Sixty-ninth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and, by meritorious conduct, was promoted to First Lieutenant, and to Captain of Company I, Sixty-ninth Regiment, after which promotion he was appointed Assistant Acting Quartermaster of the Second Brigade, First Division of the Fourteenth Army Corps, on the staff of Brig. Gen. George P. Buell, and, at the close of the war, was honorably discharged from the service. He married Miss Effy, second daughter of Noah Arnold, Esq., a wealthy farmer of the county, who has also been mentioned as one of the first teachers in the county. Mr. Chenoweth acted as agent for a school-furniture company, knows the wants of the schoolroom, for he, also, has followed the profession of teaching, and supplies the same so far as it is practicable.

Daniel Henne, Clerk of the Board, is a native of Germany, and emigrated to this country in 1857, locating near Hamilton, Ohio. At that time he had little of this world's goods, but he was not ashamed to work, and engaged himself to a farmer at monthly wages. By diligence and economy he had saved \$867 in six years. In 1863, he returned to Germany, and stayed there two years, at the end of which time he returned to his employer near Hamilton, engaging to work for him at \$26 per month, when other hands were getting only \$13. In 1867, he came to Greenville, married Miss Anna Weitbrecht, and went into business in the fall of the same year. By close attention to business, he has accumulated property which places him in easy circumstances, and, as a grain merchant, during the past year has been remarkably successful in applying the changes of the markets to his own advantage. He buys and sells about four hundred car loads of grain annually, loading 800 bushels of oats to the car; 470 bushels of wheat, and 500 bushels of corn. He is a practical business man, and has a good education in German. He has been Clerk of the School Board five years; has been Township Treasurer three years, being re-elected to both offices by increased majorities, and as an officer his acts give general satisfaction.





Jahugh Compton, Treasurer of the Board, was born in Greene County, and is one of the first business men of Greenville. He has been a member of the School Board since 1862, and has a thorough knowledge of the practical workings of the school. Under his official notice, he has seen the school grow from *four* to *fourteen* grades; assisted officially in condemning the present school lot, and was active in taking the initiatory steps which resulted in the erection of the present commodious school building. He has always favored those enterprises which inure to the public benefit. He is a practical business man, acts from a sense of duty, and is always found advocating those measures that tend to advance the interests of the school and community. D. S. Heim is one of our practical business men, is systematic in his work, prudent and sound in judgment, and a warm friend of education. He has lived in Darke County since 1839, and has been a resident of Greenville twelve years, ten years of that time being spent in public business. As a member of the School Board, he is careful, prudent and consistent. His acts met with public approval, and he was re-elected by a largely increased majority. W. J. Todd has been a member of the Board of Education for four years, and has been in public business during the greater part of the time he has resided in Greenville. During the late war, he was one of those who heeded the call of his country, and enlisted in the Eighth Ohio Battery, in 1862. He became Quartermaster of this battery, and remained in the service three years and three months. More than one year of this time was spent at Vicksburg, and he was also stationed at Natchez and Yazoo City. Mr. Todd was attentive to his duties while in the service, and was honorably discharged. He is a successful business man, appreciates education, is in favor of furnishing those facilities necessary to conduct the school successfully, and his views relative to educational matters secured his last election by a vote five times as great as his competitor. M. T. Allen is the youngest member of the Board of Education, and was elected by a handsome majority. He was born in Darke County, received a common-school education, but having a desire for a more extended education, he repaired to Otterbein University, at Westerville, Ohio, where he remained as a student for one and a half years; he then attended a school at Dayton for one term, after which he taught school for several years, and read law during this time. In 1869, he commenced the practice of law in Winchester, Ind. He finally came to Greenville in the spring of 1872, commenced the practice of law, and has continued in the profession to the present time. Mr. Allen is a man of fine personal appearance, easy address, and fluent in speech. He has a good knowledge of law, is attentive and persistent in protecting the interests of his client, and is a successful practitioner. Having been a teacher himself, he has a practical knowledge of the wants of the schoolroom, and seems to comprehend what is necessary in order that the school may move along harmoniously. He is a practical business man, favors all those enterprises that will result beneficially to the public, and his election was secured by cause of the interest he has manifested in the successful carrying-on of the school here. He acts in complete harmony with the other members of the board, and this cannot but result beneficially.

In addition to the high school mentioned, the Preparatory High School Grade is taught by James H. Woodbury. In this grade, some of the high school branches are begun, and the pupils prepared, by thorough drill and examination, for the higher grade. Mr. Woodbury is a practical teacher, a thorough disciplinarian, and his pupils make that progress in their studies that is commendable to both teacher and pupil. Frank M. White has charge of the "A" Grammar Grade. He has had five years' employment in the school. He labors under a great disadvantage, in having lost both of his arms, and using artificial substitutes; but his teaching is thorough, his government is mild but firm, and his pupils soon learn to respect and love him. He is also a member of the County Board of School Examiners, having served in that capacity about eight months. Estevan Lawrence is teacher of the "B" Grammar Grade; this is his first year's experience





as a teacher in the Greenville School. He is a cripple, being injured in one of his limbs, and walks at a great disadvantage, but his pupils respect him; he is thorough in his explanations, an experienced teacher of vocal music, and a graduate in bookkeeping and commercial arithmetic. In addition to his grade, he has charge of the commercial department of the high school, and pupils receive a thorough drill in this department. James B. Robinson has charge of the "C" Grammar Grade, and this is his second year's experience as teacher in the Greenville School, and was a student at Otterbein University, Westerville. He also teaches a class in physiology, from the high school, and has taken special pains to illustrate the subject practically by a skeleton and chart. His teachings in this department, as well as in his own proper grade, have been quite successful. He makes his teaching plain, nothing is passed until it is thoroughly understood, and pupils need not, in a higher grade, review the studies passed over here. Mr. Robinson is a practical chemist, having had charge of a drug store for a number of years. He thoroughly understands vocal music, and is a practical business man. Miss Maggie C. Mead has charge of the "A" Grade, Intermediate Department, and has been a teacher in the school nine successive years. She is a good disciplinarian, thorough and systematic in her teaching; her pupils are orderly and respectful, and her room is governed with seemingly little effort on her part. She is quiet in the schoolroom, and her pupils imitate her in this respect. Her motto is, "A quiet teacher insures a quiet school." She requires thoroughness on the part of her pupils, and will not recommend promotion to a higher grade without being satisfied that the pupil can sustain himself in that grade. Mrs. Sarah K. Hetzler has charge of the "B" Intermediate Grade, and is teaching her seventh successive year in the school. She is a widow, and supports herself and three children by her own industry. As a teacher, she has given general satisfaction, and her pupils are required to understand a subject well before an advance is made. The "C" Intermediate Grade is taught by Miss Kate Schermund, who has been employed for eight successive years. She has sustained herself well in her grade, is a good disciplinarian, and order and system prevail in her room. The study of geography is begun in this grade; it is taught by topic, and, while the study is new to the pupils, they soon become interested in all their studies. Miss Lizzie McKennan has charge of the "A" Primary Grade, this being her first year. She is a member of the graduating class of 1880, received her education in the Greenville School, is a good scholar, and, as a teacher, has given entire satisfaction. She has not only taught her grade this year, but has also kept along in her studies, reciting in the morning and evening, and thus, by industry and perseverance, has completed the high school course of study with her class. Miss Sarah White has had charge of the "B" Primary Grade for five successive years. This grade is necessarily large, but the best of order prevails in the room. She is prompt and systematic in her methods of instruction, teaching her pupils the necessity and importance of being quiet and orderly in the schoolroom. The pupils in this grade make very commendable progress. Miss Mary E. Allen has charge of the "C" Primary Grade. She has been a teacher in the Greenville School for eight successive years. She had charge of the Primary Grade before it was divided. She is kind and attentive to small children, careful in her methods of instruction, requiring her pupils to give the elementary sounds of letters, speak the words correctly, and observe the rules of reading taught to primary pupils. Mrs. Lucinda Ratliff has charge of the "D" Primary Grade. Here the pupils receive their first lessons in schoolroom duties. Writing, lettering, figures, letters and words on the slate and blackboard is required of the pupil; object lessons are taught, together with the first principles of reading. New pupils are constantly being introduced in this room, and the grade is difficult to teach successfully. Mrs. Ratliff is particularly adapted to this kind of work, and has given general satisfaction as teacher. She has been employed for five successive years, and is doing a good work in her department. Miss Anna Stallman has charge of





the German Primary Department. She is a graduate from the Greenville High School, and during the first year of her teaching, she continued her studies and graduated with her class at the close of the year. She teaches the English classes in the German and English department, alternating with the teacher in the charge of the two rooms. She has good executive ability, is mild but firm in her government, and, as teacher, gives general satisfaction. Louis Hoffman is the teacher of the German and English Department, and teaches the classes in German from the high school. He has taught ten years in the Greenville School, and understands vocal music, which he teaches to his pupils successfully. Mr. Hoffman is versed in several languages, and teaches the German in two grades. Vocal music is taught in all grades daily. This department is in charge of J. A. Porter, formerly employed in the schools of Galion, Ohio. He is also a teacher of instrumental music. In May, 1873, thirteen teachers were employed, and in June, 1878, seventeen. The enrollment for the latter year was 894. Of these, 465 were males and 429 females. The enrollment in the high school was 156. The average, monthly enrollment was a total of 684; of these, 95 were enrolled in the high school. The average daily attendance was 621; of these, 88 were enrolled in the high school. The per cent of attendance was 93 in the high school, and 91 in the other grades. Tuition received from non-residents is an item of revenue to the district. Five commencements have been held since the high school was organized. The names of graduates are as follows:

Class of 1873—A. C. Lindermuth, George Gunder, E. L. Matchett and Florence Lansdowne (Matchett died August 5, 1877, and Lansdowne November 30, 1874), Amelia Sorber, Allie Smith, Mary E. Roland, Lizzie McAlpine, Kate Hicks and May Lynch. Class of 1875—Emma Kelin, Victoria Lindermuth and Mollie Mitchell (since died). Class of 1876—Charles Roland, Allie McNeal, Ida Lynch and Sadie McCune. Class of 1877—Ella Ault, Flora Meeker, Minnie Garber, A. C. Robeson, Delia Klinger, Clara Roland, Anna Stallmann, C. E. Porterfield. Class of 1878—Rollin F. Crider, Frank D. Meeker, Sadie Meeker, Henry T. Miller, Dena Martin, Estella Dunlap, and the graduating class of 1880 are Leona Shade, Ada Lindsey, Callie Bettimer, Lizzie McKeman, Ammon Mider, Allie Judy, D. L. Gaskill and J. H. Martz.

The ecclesiastical history of Greenville is really to a great extent that of the county, since from the city have gone forth the elements of outside organization. The Presbyterians seem to have perfected an organization as early as February 14, 1821, when the following-named persons signed a call for the formation of a corporate body: L. Bascom, James Craig, William L. Wilson, John Craig, William McKhann, Jesse McGinnis, John Armstrong, John Devor, Benjamin Murphy, David Fisher, John McFarland, William Clark, John Beers, Robert Hood, James Buchanan, Heman L. Aiken, Stephen Perrine, William Martin, David Irwin, James Devor, A. Scribner, Eastin Norris, James Stevenson (senior and junior), H. McCune, George I. Isham, Erastus Putnam, John Miller, William Lipe, Thomas Stokeley, Charles Steward, George W. Hight and John Briggs. Agreeably to legal notice, the above-named met at the house of Linus Bascom on March 10, 1821, and elected Eastin Norris Clerk, and for Trustees Benjamin Murphy, William Martin and Linus Bascom, and they also placed the organization on record as the Greenville Presbyterian Society. September 9, 1825, a congregation collected at the house of Benjamin Murphy for the purpose of being organized into a church. The Rev. John Ross officiated, and, having concluded religious exercises, he set apart Benjamin Murphy and Linus Bascom as Elders, and Robert Robinson was re-elected as Elder. John Ross commenced preaching in 1825, and remained with the congregation till 1831. In 1833, the society, at a called meeting, detached a portion of their number living in Adams Township to form the Mount Pleasant Church, now the Gettysburg Presbyterian, whose first Pastor was Rev. Isaac Ogden. The society at Greenville did not have regular preaching for some time previous to October, 1841, when Alexander Gulick was installed Pastor.





and divided his time between the two societies named, remaining two years. November 31, 1844, Rev. Badeau was engaged, and served four years. May 12, 1849, Rev. John A. Weeks commenced preaching, and was succeeded in 1853 by Rev. R. M. McCullough, who was Pastor but one year. Rev. Orlando Clark was secured for the year 1857. Two years later, D. B. Wycoff served six months, previous to departure for India as a missionary. In June, 1860, Rev. C. B. H. Martin became Pastor, and served a year very acceptably. Next came John W. Drake, from 1862 to August, 1865. H. A. Newell to 1868, an excellent speaker, easy of bearing and portly in person. The society received its greatest stimulus during his pastorate, either before or since. John S. Gourlay, a talented man, preached for a year or so, then, on April 7, 1872, J. C. Eastman was invited to occupy the pulpit as a temporary supply, and remained from that time until April, 1880.

The Second Presbyterian Church was formed June 21, 1843, and continued its existence until the year 1865, when, February 21, the elders of this and the other church met, and, after a full consultation, passed the following resolution, to be presented to their respective congregations: *Resolved*, 1, That we unite with the Old School Presbytery, and take the First Church for a house of worship, the united church to make a call for a Pastor.

Both congregations unanimously acceded to these propositions, and the united societies met February 28, and formally agreed upon the union of their interests. On May 8, 1865, an election of a Board of Trustees was held, and James B. Avery was Chairman and William Kerr, Clerk. The election resulted in the choice of James B. Avery, A. Gaskill, M. Creager, Stephen Baird, Charles Tate and David B. John. April 6, 1877, the membership actual was 182; the Sabbath school membership was 166; amount contributed for Pastor's salary, parsonage and other objects, was \$2,914. A year later, there were 210 members. The statistical report for the year ending April 12, 1880, is in part as follows: Whole membership, 135; contributions, \$1,416.83; number in school, 169.

*St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church* dates from the year 1832. In that year, Rev. Alva Guion, recently located at Piqua, visited Greenville to address the people on the importance of sustaining a Sunday school, and of establishing a library of religious books for children. This was done, although at this time, there was not an Episcopalian in the village. In the spring of 1833, Rev. Guion, on visit, was pleased to find a convert in the person of Mrs. Eliza A. Briggs. In 1835, an article of association was drawn up and circulated in Greenville, twelve persons subscribed their names to it, and in 1836, nine more were added, and the next spring the number was increased to twenty-five. The following is a copy of the article, and of the names attached. May 29, 1837: "We, whose names are herewith affixed, do hereby associate ourselves together under the name of the Parish of St. Paul's Church: John and Eliza A. Briggs, W. B. and Mary A. Beall, Jane E. Ross, Evaline Dorsey, Margaret Kilbourne, Daniel R. and Ann B. Davis, Margaret Baird, Joseph Ross, Thomas F. Kilbourne, Stephen Perrine, W. M. Wilson, Eliza Duncan, Elisha Dawes, Hiram Potter, Francis Waring, William M. Crane, William McKhann, A. L. Northrop, John Wharry, H. Arnold, H. D. Williams and Chloe Herkeiner."

Pursuant to canonical notice, members assembled May 29, 1837, at the dwelling of Dr. John Briggs, to organize a parish, and the following names were elected to the Vestry: John Briggs, W. B. Beall, Thomas F. Kilbourne, Joseph Ross and A. L. Northrop. A building committee was chosen January 13, 1840, which consisted of William M. Wilson, W. B. Beall and Hiram Potter. In due time, the building was erected, completed and properly furnished. Upon its site, on the northwest corner of Third and Walnut streets, on the site of the present new chapel, the pioneer church stood until 1879 or 1880, a period of forty years. From 1840 to 1852, N. Badger, of Troy, J. J. Okill, J. W. Talford, William Miller and Rev. Wiggins officiated at regular intervals. In 1846, nine persons were





confirmed by Rt. Rev. C. P. McIlvaine. In 1851, Daniel E. Brown became Rector, and maintained that relation to St. Paul's Parish until 1860. May, 17, 1859, fourteen persons were confirmed. Up to March 23, 1868, confirmations were forty-three, J. N. Lee became Rector, November 17, 1860, and served until November 30, 1862. From this date until 1866, there was no regular minister. Rev. J. H. McElray then served a year, when there was an interval until January, 1871, when Richard Wainwright was installed Rector, succeeded by George B. Sturgis, who closed connection with the church July, 1874. The present incumbent is Rev. David W. Cox, in charge since 1877. The new church is of recent construction, and as said, occupies the old site of the pioneer structure. The membership is about forty. The Sabbath School Superintendents between 1832 and 1853 were Mrs. E. Briggs and Evaline Dorsey. Later, the school was conducted several years by B. Hubbard, until 1859. Mr. Webb is now in charge. The school attendance is sixty.

*The Methodist Episcopal Church* began the construction of a house in 1835, and its location was determined by the following circumstance; Isaac Jay, a Quaker, identified himself with the Methodists, and himself determined to buy the present church lot, the northwest half of No. 5, in Greenville, and upon it to erect a suitable building. He was induced to make the purchase from impressions made by a dream, in which he saw sheep encompassed by wolves make a successful stand at this site—then a thicket of thorn bushes. He paid \$40 for the site, then owned by Hiram and John C. Potter, and received a deed February 22, 1835. In 1836, the meeting-house was completed, under the supervision as building committee, of Mr. Jay, William Oliver, C. Martin, William Folkerth, William W. Jordan, Jacob Chenoweth and Hiram Bell, at a cost of \$600. There was a debt of \$70, which was discharged by each member of the committee paying \$10. A revival, adding thirty-seven to the church, followed the completion of the house. The Methodist Episcopal parsonage of Fourth street was purchased in the fall of 1848; Rev. Harmount being its first occupant. In 1852, the frame church was sold to William J. Bireley, for \$50, and subscriptions were taken for the purpose of building a brick church, estimated to cost \$5,000. The sum of \$2,000, only part of which was paid, having been subscribed, work began but was greatly retarded by lack of means. Finally, \$1,500 was borrowed, and the work completed. In 1860, Greenville was made a station with one appointment. Isaac Newton, Pastor, drew large congregations, and much interest was shown. James H. Alderman was in charge next; then Jacob Feghtby, sometimes called the "quiet brother." During his stay the organ was first introduced into the church, with strong opposition from aged members. In 1864, Fielding L. Harper began work, but in consequence of ill-health, discontinued work, and soon after died. Charles Reynolds was in charge in 1865, followed next year by Henry E. Pilcher. The parsonage was sold for \$800, and another on the same street purchased for \$2,500. Rev. L. C. Webster preached in 1867-68, and Joseph Ayers, whose term of service expired with the latter year, was the Presiding Elder. The new parsonage was exchanged for another on the same street, the Trustees receiving \$700 in addition to the same. The Sabbath-school was prosperous; monthly concerts were held, and 200 children attended. During 1868, 1869 and 1870, Amos Wilson was preacher in charge, and Joseph Wyoks, Presiding Elder. Next came H. S. Bradley, and, in 1871, Rev. A. Barry was appointed to this charge, and remained three years. From the fall of 1874 to that of 1877, Rev. A. J. Fish was Pastor, during whose time the church was dedicated by Rev. A. Marine, now of Fort Wayne, Ind. The church membership reached 161. There was not a death during the year. Rev. M. L. Albright came in the fall of 1877, and remained two years. The present Pastor, Rev. J. A. Ferguson, is in charge. Since the dedication in 1875, considerable improvements have been made at a cost of \$6,900. The bell donated by William Allen, has a weight of 1,525 pounds. The building stands on the east side of Sycamore street, between Third and Fourth streets. The present actual membership is 200.





*The Christian Church* was organized January 3, 1841, by Elders Elijah Williamson, John B. Robertson, Hallet Barber and Elisha Ashley. At a regular meeting held July 31, various matters were adduced, among which was a resolution to attach the church to the Western (Bluffton) Conference. It seems that in October 15, 1833, Lot No. 23 was deeded by Solomon Rittle and wife to William Martin, John Swisher, Alexander Craig, David Potter and John N. Parcell, for the use and benefit of the first Christian Church that might be organized in the town of Greenville, for the purpose of erecting thereon a meeting-house. A house was erected and at the time whereof we write the society by right took into possession house and lot. The members increased in seven months from ten to eighty-eight, and the Pastors in order up to August, 1841, were Elders J. B. Robertson, H. Barber, D. Purviance, L. Purviance, E. Ashley, I. Trenton and E. Williamson. The first Christian Church was incorporated January 21, 1842. In 1857, there were sixty-one additions, and August 25, 1859, there were 114 members. John Stephenson and John Van Meter were appointed Deacons August 1, 1846; Elder Williamson was chosen Pastor for one year from July 31, 1847. In April following, steps were taken toward the erection of a brick meeting-house. The old house was sold March 7, 1849, for \$105. The Episcopalians allowed the society the temporary use of their house till their own could be built. August 10, 1854, Elder Marvin was Pastor, who, having resigned in 1856, Elder H. K. McConnell was invited to the pastorate, and was employed for 1857 and 1858. From this time a decadence set in, and in time but few members remained. On April 6, 1874, it was stated that besides Rev. McConnell, M. Palmer and Elder McWhinney were the only ministers to that date who had preached and labored for the society.

*Evangelical Church.*—Originally the Greenville appointment belonged to the Miami Circuit, Ohio Conference. At first, there was no regular preaching, but ministers visited this section from Dayton, Cincinnati and other places, and preached in private houses. A small class was formed in 1842. Peter Roth, afterward minister on this circuit, became the leader. Among members of the class were M. Kline, Rensselaer, Leetz and Koenig. The present church, a medium-sized brick structure, with a seating capacity of about three hundred, is located on the southeast corner of Fourth and Ash streets, was the first one built. The work was done in 1858, and the sermon of dedication was preached by Bishop Long, Revs. Platz being Presiding Elder, and B. Rush, circuit preacher. Indebtedness was paid off at this time, and later a comfortable parsonage was erected on the same lot. The following have been Presiding Elders from 1842 until the present: Revs. Censor, Schaffer, Kopp, Fry, Dreisbach, Platz, Fisher, Myer, Fuchs, Krueger and Baumgartner. The preachers have been Abraham Schaffer, Philip Por, Eli Kliplinger, Lewis Einsel, Jacob Keiper, John Hoffman, John G. Censor, B. Rush, Peter Roth, John Nikolai, C. Glaus, B. Uphaus, George Holley, Peter Getz, Christian Heim, A. E. Dreisbach, Ph. Schwartz, Charles Schamo, George Nolpert, Edward Evans, E. R. Troyer, Reuben Reigel, George Klepper, E. R. Troyer, E. T. Hochsletler and F. Lanner. Greenville has not yet been made a station, but is still an appointment, with preaching once in two weeks. The membership of the circuit is 243, and of the town is 28.

*German Methodist.*—The first preaching in Greenville by a minister of this denomination was by Rev. William Floerke, October 2, 1852, who remained two years. Services were held in dwellings. Some of the original members of the society were J. W. Fischbach, Charles Bittermire, Charles Klarig, Loveroy, Klarig, Fred Steuramp and J. G. Martine. The second minister was J. A. Schmermund, under whose administration the present church was built in 1855, at a cost of about \$900. The parsonage was bought for \$350 in 1857. It has been materially enlarged and improved. The lot, the site of church and parsonage, is located on Ash street, between Main and Water streets. The entire property is valued at \$2,500. The Sabbath school was established in 1850, and has been





kept up ever since. There has also been regular preaching. The membership is small. Old members have died, new ones have moved away. The proportion of English-speaking Methodists has increased, and there is little numerical gain. It forms a part of the German Central Conference. Presiding Elders have been William Ahrens, M. Collander, J. A. Kline, Conrad Ghau, Jacob Rothweiler, G. C. Fritch, E. Reinschneider and L. Olinger. The pastors of this congregation have been from the first as follows: William Floerke, J. A. Schmeremund, William Ahrens, Conrad Bier, Charles Helwig, Henry Fuess, Paul Brodbeck, F. Severinghaus, John Leppert, L. Dunker, Jacob Gabler, Adam Weber, John Ficker.

*The German Reformed Church.*—St. Paul's congregation. The division of the Dallas charge by detaching the congregations of Beamsville and Gettysburg, gave rise to the organization of a central congregation on a new charge. In September, 1864, the Rev. T. P. Bucher, of Dayton, preached in Greenville, in the Old School Presbyterian Church, to a large congregation. Revs. W. McCaughey and A. Wanner preached here subsequently. Sufficient interest seems to have been awakened to provide for the formation of a society, and, September 19, 1864, this was effected. Six members of the German Reformed Church were present at the meeting, and the names of five others were presented. The following names were entered—Philip Hartzell and wife, Mrs. Clem Barthling, S. Creager, Mrs. E. C. Baer and Mrs. Margaret Webb. The meeting was held in the dwelling of Mrs. Barthling. On March 12, 1866, Rev. W. McCaughey was still Pastor. A month or so later, a building committee was appointed, and, in September, the church owned by the Christians was rented for six months from October 14. November 1, 1866, the Committee on Location reported a lot on the corner of Third and Vine streets, owned by John Harper. In the spring of 1869, the church became very dilapidated, and the house of the Old School Presbyterians was purchased for \$4,000 cash. The funds were secured by borrowing \$3,600 of Mr. Alter, of Cincinnati, but owing to the desire of the Presbyterians to wait for the union of the two schools, action was delayed. In February, 1870, the property was sold at auction, to Turpen, Benham & Co. The Harper lot was sold, and a purchase made of part of a lot from Dr. T. J. Kindlesberger, for \$1,000, on May 30, 1870. Church building was pushed, and, in 1874, the new St. Paul's Reform Church was dedicated. The Pastor, Rev. W. McCaughey, was assisted by Rev. David Winters, D. D., of Dayton, and others. The entire cost of the building was about \$5,400. In speaking of it a local paper said: "The church, a model of neatness and beauty, is pronounced the finest in the county, will comfortably seat about three hundred persons, is well ventilated, and is heated by a furnace. The walls and ceiling are beautifully frescoed, the design and finish of the windows really imposing, the pulpit tastefully constructed, the aisles carpeted, and the congregation have the handsomest house of worship in the town." The first communion season in the new church was held February 16, 1873. Rev. McCaughey, who had been with the church since its origin, tendered his resignation and preached his final sermon on the evening of September 6, 1874. The pulpit was for a time supplied by R. B. Reichard, who, resigning in the fall of 1876, was succeeded by Jesse Steimer, who came in the spring of 1879, and remained till the fall of 1879.

January 1, 1880, Rev. Samuel Mere, D. D., assumed the pastorate, and is the incumbent. The membership is now about seventy-five. The Sabbath school connected with this church was organized in the spring of 1867, and numbers fifty-five.

*The Baptists* had an organization at Greenville at an early day, and erected a frame church, but it has gone down.

*The United Brethren* had a church prior to the war, which was sold at auction, and bought by Prof. Martz, and used as schoolhouse; then sold to Catholics about 1862, who greatly improved it.

*The Catholics* have a popular and faithful priest, and here, as elsewhere, that ancient society gains ground.

It is notable in the foregoing history of the city that few persons are found





constantly in the foreground of very prominent interest, social, financial, educational and religious, while their following is staunch and confident. In this we may learn the influence of energy, wealth and public spirit in developing and making attractive a village or a city. Greenville has fine buildings, private and public. Her interests are in safe hands, and the city offers many inducements to a residence there; not alone in the sociability of the citizens, but in the influences of public institutions and prevalence of progressive and elevating tendencies.

### WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

This township was organized in March, 1819, and embraced what is now contained in both German and Washington Townships. In December, 1833, the north tier of sections of Township, 11 north was taken into the township, but a year later a subdivision was made, the southern part taking the name of German, thereby leaving a small indebtedness incurred in opening roads, for the old township to pay.

The township as now organized contains 20,982 acres of land, and at one time was heavily timbered. It is well watered by springs and by streams flowing over the surface. The soil is unsurpassed by any in the county for the production of all the grains and grasses adapted to this county, and for health none excel it. The facts of the history which follow are supplied by Joseph Cole, a native of the township, and now fifty-five years of age. He speaks from personal experience, and of his own knowledge, when he says: "The task the pioneer farmer had in subduing the forest for his first crop was, to say the least, a very arduous undertaking, when with his own hand he grubbed, chopped, picked and burned all the undergrowth—that is to say, all what was called a foot and under: and then, having the larger trees girdled, he was ready to commence plowing, or rather digging among the roots. A team of horses or cattle, harness, and a plow of a very rude structure, was his outfit to commence the task of preparing for a crop, and by diligence he usually raised a fair yield of corn, pumpkins, beans, potatoes and all kinds of garden vegetables. The first season, a small field was thus cleared and tilled. This ground was usually sown to wheat in the corn ground, or after the corn was cut up. And when the wheat was matured, it was gathered by hand with the sickle, hauled in and stacked. In winter it was either beaten off with the flail, or tramped off with horses, when the grain was separated from the chaff by running through the windmill. This was not always practicable, for it sometimes occurred that the poor man had to cleanse his grain by fanning it by hand, using a linen sheet, or by throwing it from one side of his dirt floor to the other, repeating the operation until it was sufficiently clean for milling or sowing.

"Field after field was added yearly until the farm was opened up, until of the 20,000 acres of forest, more than 14,000 are now under a fair state of cultivation. There was a steady adherence to the same rotation of crops as fields were added, giving fair yields for the labor; and, with what wild game could be killed, furnished the settler with provisions sufficient for himself and family, and a surplus to divide with the new-comer as he dropped in. And this hard way in this wild wood seemed not to depress, for the settlers were apparently the happiest people on the face of the earth. Thus all crops were raised, the entire work being done by hand; and but little more was produced than home needs required. Prices were very low. Wheat was sold at 3 and 4 shillings per bushel. Day-laborers got from 2 to 3 shillings per day, or \$7 to \$10 per month; but how different now after the lapse of half a century. The farms are cleared of stumps and stones, and much of the work is done by machinery, horse-power and steam supplanting the sinewy arm and strong hand that handled hoe, sickle, cradle and





fail. The grain is easily raised, and prices are greatly increased. Financially the first settlers were all poor, having gone into the unsettled part that they might obtain homes at the Government price. They understood fully the advantages of co-operating by mutual aid in raising cabins, and other efforts; and as long as one had bread or seed, he divided with his less fortunate neighbor. Many lived to good old age, and beyond the allotted threescore and ten, relics of the past, observers of the future, whose changes they could not have foreseen.

The first to locate in the township were Martin and Jacob Cox, from Pennsylvania. They settled on the right bank of Greenville Creek, on October 16, 1816, the former on Section 13, the latter on Section 14: there they made permanent homes, upon which they passed their lives. Jacob died in 1842, leaving his farm to his children; Martin occupied the farm about forty-two years, and made many improvements. An only child inherits his estate. James Brady and Samuel Cole, the two next settlers, came from Sussex County, N. J., in March, 1817. Brady located on Section 26, and thereon passed his life, dying at the age of fifty-one, in the year 1838. His widow, at the advanced age of ninety, still lives on the farm with her son, J. M. Brady. Samuel Cole settled on Section 27, where he remained till 1824, and here it was where the first white child was born within the township. Jane Cole was born April 20, 1817; she is now the widow Wintermote, and resides in Greenville Township, to which Mr. Cole moved and settled on Section 19, where he died February 21, 1866, aged seventy-nine. Samuel Cole, Sr., came in 1818, and lived with his son until his death in 1829, at the age of seventy-nine. Levi Elston from the same county and State as the above, settled in 1818, on Section 26, and made some improvements, but did not live long to enjoy them, but the farm remained in the hands of his widow and children for nearly half a century. In May following, John Snell and Daniel Shively both settled on Section 27, and cleared up lands bordering on the second branch of Greenville Creek; with the others that gathered in, there was formed a Dutch settlement, thereby giving to the second branch the name of Krout Creek. Snell, after getting his land in a fair state of cultivation, sold and went to Missouri in 1839, but Shively remained on his farm until his death in 1841, aged forty-nine years. Others here were Peter and John Heck, the Millers, the Raricks, and Clapps from Pennsylvania. In 1818, a number of families from New Jersey settled here, forming what was called the Jersey settlement. William Martin entered a part of Section 25, made some improvements, but did not live long to enjoy his labors; a part of the farm is still owned by his son, John H. Martin. John Chenoweth located on Section 32, in 1819, and erected a cabin, cleared land and gradually made extensive improvements. He raised a large family, and after a sojourn of between forty and fifty years, sold and moved to Illinois, where he died at an advanced age. He was frequently heard to remark that he could start at the Scioto, his native home, and travel all the way to Iowa with a team, and stay every night with some one of his connections.

From different States, the families continued to arrive during the year 1818. There was John Clapp, from Maryland, who settled on Section 34, cleared up his farm, and in 1823, built a mill, hereafter noted. He died here at the age of seventy, in the year 1846. Philip Rarick, from Pennsylvania, occupied part of the same section, raised a large family, and in time died. Joel Cosad, from New York, settled on Section 35, and in 1833, removed to Dayton. Nathaniel Skidmore and Jeremiah Rogers, both of New Jersey, entered portions of Section 28; the former cleared a large farm, upon which he resided until 1855, when he died, aged sixty-six years. Rogers died some years earlier. Samuel and Peter Kimber, from New Jersey, settled on Section 23, improving the same, and living there until 1852, when Peter sold out, but still resided in the neighborhood until his death in 1870, at the age of seventy-nine. Christian Miller, came in 1819, and built on Section 22, and there passed his life. Clearing was continued by Jonah Miller, who occupied until 1867, when he went to Wabash County, Ind., where he died in 1878.





Henry Creviston, even in boyhood, was known at old Fort Greenville, during the war of 1812, and for some time after. About 1830, he made settlement in this township, on Section 9, and on this farm remained until his death. It was said by the old settlers, familiar with the old rough times, in and about the fort, that there was no one came to the fort his equal in activity and muscular strength. Ignatius Burns first located on Section 24, but soon sold, and Philip Manuel was acknowledged as the first to make permanent improvement on the same. He was from Kentucky, and died in the township on his farm, aged seventy-eight, in the year 1871. Moses Crumrine entered part of Section 22, made considerable clearing, and now, aged seventy-five, is still hale and hearty, and bids fair for many years. Jesse Gray, a noted hunter, settled on the border of Section 5, but the rifle, not the ax, was his weapon, and he moved westward to Jay County, Ind., where he died at a very old age; and there was Jacob Chenoweth, a wolf trapper, who occupied a rude cabin on Section 19, and at length, at a ripe age, died. There, too, was Joseph Cole, Sr., a settler on Section 21, in 1826. He was noted, not only as a farmer, but as a first-class country blacksmith. He is still living on the old homestead, although past his fourscore and four years. Those named were not all, examples only of the many. There were Conrad Harter, Charles Sumption, Solomon Harter, Joseph Dixon, L. D. Wintermote, Hezekiah Fowler, all early settlers, who helped in the great task of subduing the forest. And there, too, were David Wasson, John S. Hiller and Isaac Vail, and besides, there were Thomas F. Chenoweth, a settler on Section 23, where, at the age of seventy, he has lived nearly sixty years; and Aaron Hiller, a farmer on Section 36, where he died, aged seventy. A single additional name is given, that of Johnson Deniston, who settled on Section 23, about the year 1825. It was on his farm that the boys met to enjoy the holiday of all holidays—the annual muster of the militia. This took place one week before what was called the Big Muster in Greenville, which was once each year. Mr. Cole says: "Well, it was just about as much as a boy could stand, to hear the martial music, especially when John and Israel Cox were the fifiers, as both were capital players, and Israel, especially, was excelled by none; to see Capt. Marquis in his gay uniform, and hear his shrill command, and to see William Scott beat the tenor-drum. It was good enough for any boy of the day to see and hear, but big musters in regimental drill, with officers in full dress, mounted, was as much as the boy nature could endure."

It would not be true to say that these first settlers found the country just as the red man left it, for he had not gone. He was friendly, molesting neither man nor beast, and frequently called at the cabin door for food. It is not enough to say of these pioneers that they were farmers, for they were mechanics, teachers and preachers, as well. They tanned their own leather, made their own shoes, did their own coopering and blacksmithing, taught their schools, and had, in the person of John Wintermote, what has been called a "Hardshell" Baptist preacher—the first minister to locate in the township.

Of the improvements of Washington Township, it is hard to tell where to begin, as it was an unbroken wilderness. The first road or trace to this settlement from Greenville was to cross Greenville Creek, just above what is now known as George Van Dike's ashery; then by the D. Irwin farm, winding up the north side of Greenville Creek, by Dean's mill, to what was then known as the Byram cabin, about where A. Hays now lives, and crossing Greenville Creek just below the Murphy graveyard; thence by D. Williamson's and Daniel Potter's. The next road was what was called the Jersey road, crossing Greenville Creek at the same point; thence, recrossing at Tecumseh's Point; thence, keeping south of the creek, crossing the west branch north of George Fox's mill, and so on west to the Jersey settlement and Krout Creek.

The first grist-mill erected within the township was built by John Clapp, in 1823, on the second branch, on what is now known as the Bartow farm. It was a very rude structure, but as good as the times and financial conditions would permit.





although the greater part of the work on the dam, digging the race and putting up the house, was done by volunteer work. The next, in the way of mill improvements, was a saw-mill, built by Jeremiah Rogers, on Hoover's Branch, on the farm now owned by Peter Skidmore, which was of service many years; but of these two old mills, only the landmarks are left.

Soon after these mills were built, David Clapp, early in 1832, commenced to build a flouring-mill on the second branch. The same fall, a saw-mill was running. The grist-mill began to run in the following year. The race was dug nearly half a mile through the roots of the primitive forest. Samuel Hatter and Joseph Rarick took the job for \$100, and they hired William Baldwin, William Dennison, John Dixon and George Young to assist them. These men worked at prices ranging from 2 to 3 shillings per day. Andrew Bickel was also employed. Being considered rather an extra hand, he was paid 43 cents per day, the understanding being that he should keep the fact of greater wages to himself. Prior to the erection of this mill, the people here were used to going to a small flouring-mill near Cole-town. The year 1832 was marked by a severely cold winter, and the mill froze up. Mr. Bickel tells of working, in company with two others, nearly all day to get the ice cut out, and all the grinding done by night was a half-bushel of corn-meal. This they divided between them, in shares proportioned to the size of the respective families. There are now four water and two steam saw-mills in the township. McClure's mill is run by water and by steam; it has been repaired and rebuilt, until it is now a first-class flouring-mill, and is worthy of the patronage given.

These enterprising pioneers soon began to want a little nicer and safer chimney than the one of mud and sticks, so, with John Snell at the lead, they in common set to work to burn a brick-kiln, but in order to succeed they were obliged to go over to Greenville Township to call upon Hiller to assist in the molding and burning. They did good work, as some of the old chimneys will yet testify. James Brady and John Chenoweth were the first to burn brick and to build brick houses, but Joel Cosad was the first to build a frame house. It was about 18x20 feet base and one story high. One fact in this connection is worthy of note, that is, but few ever left the county who once settled in it; they were either satisfied with the country or were else too poor to get away. As we have indicated, there are quite a number that have lived in the township from fifty to sixty years. In early times, there was a struggle for village notoriety between Nashville and Hill Grove, but long ago Nashville yielded the contest and not a building is left to mark the site of the would-be village, and Hill Grove came very near being absorbed by Union City. In this connection, it is well to recall Colona, a village located on December 31, which bloomed and died in a brief time. A few lots were laid out and sold, and a few dwellings were erected, but it soon became apparent that there was nothing to incite effort or induce settlement, and the vestiges of occupation soon disappeared, and few, if any, of the citizens of the township in 1880 remember or ever knew that the village of Colona ever had existence. It, like Nashville, was laid out on the old State road, and afforded a halting place to movers and travelers, where they might rest and might obtain food for themselves and for their teams.

The village of Hill Grove is situated at the northwest corner of Section 4. It was laid out in 1848, by W. McKee. The population numbers about two hundred persons. It is distant from Union City but little more than two miles, and from Greenville nine and a half. The Greenville & Union pike and the Dayton & Union Railroad run through it. It contains three churches—the German Reformed, United Brethren and Methodist Episcopal. The former was originally built by the Old School Presbyterians, and purchased by the society named in 1876, and Rev. J. Stuck has been Pastor ever since. It was rebuilt during the summer of 1879, and is a neat brick structure, pleasantly located on the north side of Liberty street, in the northeastern part of town. The United Brethren





Church is a neat frame, medium-sized building, near the township line, and built in 1878. The Methodist Church is situated over the line a short distance, in Jackson Township, in the northwest part of the village and near that end of Main street. The schoolhouse, which has a school enrolling ninety-four pupils, is located on Main street, opposite the southeast end of Locust street. On the corner of Cherry and Liberty streets stands a two-story grist-mill, originally built as a warehouse when the railroad was put through. It has two run of buhrs, and is employed exclusively in custom work. Its present owner is Louis Limperd, and it is run by Samuel Limperd. J. A. Bickell's general store is located on the southeast corner of Main and Liberty streets. On the opposite side of Main street, but farther south, on Lot No. 27, is a blacksmith-shop, built by J. Consue in 1857; the old part was built by Wash. McKee about 1834. Mr. McKee kept the first store in Hill Grove, but a short time before there had been a trading station run by Charles Sumption. Herman Searles was among the early storekeepers in the township, and George Clapp built the first blacksmith-shop; it was located about half a mile southeast of the present village. As to the schools, they were generally taught in old deserted cabins until the settlers saw fit to select some convenient site and unite on some day to build a cabin; afterward a teacher was hired by the process of joint subscription.

There is as yet no school law, no defined districts, and there is something yet lacking. It is the year 1822, and the house stands surrounded by a pathless forest and the woodmen's children cannot find their way securely. Parents and older boys select the best and nearest paths, which they blaze and cut away brush from. They cut small trees across slashes and branches. They put up hand poles to steady the children in crossing, and then, with Webster's Speller, English Reader, Pike's Arithmetic, slate and pencil, one-half quire blue paper, one-half dozen goose quills and a bottle of home-made ink, the most advanced was thoroughly equipped, and, not unfrequently, several of the same family were used to study the same meager set of books.

In this rude state, the children sat for hours on a bench, crowded together with feet swinging between bench and floor from morning till noon, and not allowed to whisper or scarcely look off their books without being liable to punishment.

As to the teachers, they were usually limited in qualifications, being generally competent to instruct in orthography, reading, writing and arithmetic; sometimes knowledge of the latter was very limited. All were skilled in the use of the rod, which was plied unmercifully on the slightest neglect or provocation. There were only three months' school each year, and these were in the winter, and unexceptionally taught by school masters.

The first school taught in the township was under control of Samuel Cole, during the winter of 1818-19, in one part of his double log cabin, on the farm now owned by Dilmon Mote. The pioneer school building was raised on the farm of John Snell, now owned by Samuel Elston, in the year 1821 or 1822. The first schoolhouse in the Bickel neighborhood was built at an early day, not later than 1835. Various persons taught subscription schools for short terms therein. Still earlier, schools were kept as above stated. The first school taught in this house, after public money had been granted in partial support of education, was by J. H. Williamson. His first school, taught when he was but fourteen years of age, was in a neighboring district, the previous winter. He afterward taught at McClure's Mills, and in various other districts. Joseph Worth taught three winters, amounting to ten months of twenty-six days to the month, for \$10 per month, and boarded himself, save when the weather was too bad for him to go home. Another pioneer-like schoolhouse was built in 1831, on the place of Martin Cox, and another of the old teachers was Thomas Hoffman.

Contrast the past with the present. There are now in the township eleven school districts, with a large brick house in most of them. Each house will seat





an average of sixty pupils. There are elegant seats, fine desks, good blackboards, charts, and well-arranged rooms. Pupils are well supplied with as many books as they can well carry, and thrice as many as they can well study. There are competent teachers, well paid, and free schools full six months each year. The contrast of wages is from the \$25 to \$35 per quarter of sixty-five days' term olden times, paid in produce in part, to the from \$100 to \$120 per quarter of sixty days, cash in hand.

A brief reference to the churches is appropriate in the detail of important social organizations. The Hiller Church, built on Section 36, was the first built in the township, and, also, was the first built in the county. The date of its construction is traditionally fixed in 1819, and it was the volunteer labor of the able-bodied men of the whole settlement, and, when it was completed, it was free to all. It was known as a Methodist Episcopal Church, and still stands. The next church was the Chenoweth Church, built on Section 32, at an early date, by the Methodists. It subverted the purpose of its construction, and has long since been leveled to the earth. The third building for purposes of worship was erected on the farm of Martin Cox, on Section 14, by the people of the Presbyterian society. It was known as the "Cox Meeting-house." These were points and places well known, but the usual place of worship was the cabin or barn of the settler, or, in warm, pleasant weather, in God's first temples—the shade of noble forest trees.

A German Baptist Church is located on the northeast quarter of Section 9, about one and a half miles southeast of Hill Grove, on the Greenville and Union pike. The lot on which it was situated, comprising three-fourths of an acre, was donated by John Flory. The church was built during the spring of 1878. It is a neat frame structure, costing \$800. The building committee were Jacob Merrick, John Flory and Daniel Wagner. The following-named preachers have officiated therein: William Simmons, Washington Wenrick, Samuel Puterbaugh and Benjamin Bowman. Services by some of the above were held on almost every Sunday. There is a good membership, but no Sabbath school.

We have said that not unusually services were held in the forest. The Methodist frontier camp-meetings were once an institution that could not well be dispensed with, and seemed to be a recruiting point for the M. E. Church, and a place where all met on a common level for the renewal of their spiritual strength, and to extend a general acquaintance among the brotherhood. The first meeting or encampment of this kind held anywhere in Darke or adjoining counties, so far as known, took place in Washington Township, on Section 33, in the vicinity of what was then known as the Devor Spring, but what is now denominated the Hought Farm. The date of the meeting is not remembered. In 1838-39, a Methodist camp-meeting was held on the farm of John Chenoweth, on Section 32. Of the ministers present and actively engaged, but one is recalled, and this was Rev. W. W. Jordan. The camps were built of poles, and on three sides, forming what might be termed a hollow square, with the seats between the camps, and the pulpit having a central position at one end, facing the center. The period of encampment usually lasted from ten days to two or three weeks. It is needless to say that the "rowdies," as styled by the church people, had their full share of recreation at these assemblies.

The oldest record that can be found of the board of township officers commences with 1828, yet there is a record of the ear marks of animals running at large which goes as far back as April 20, 1819, thereby preserving the names of the Township Clerks that far back. The first Township Clerk's name thus obtained is Moses Rush for 1819; the second John McNeal, for 1820; John Wintemote for 1821-22; Samuel Cole for 1823, and Christian Miller for 1824. In 1828, there is a full board given, as follows: Charles Sumption, James Brady and Leonard Wintemote, Trustees; Samuel Kimber, Treasurer; John S. Hiller, Clerk. The governing motives of those early officers of Washington Township was undoubtedly purely patriotic, for no Trustee, Treasurer or Clerk ever charged one cent for





his services until 1838. when the Clerk, Aaron Hiller, who had to perform extra services in regard to school affairs, made a charge of and was allowed the sum of \$5. All settlements prior to this show that the Township Board gave their services gratuitously.

The receipts and expenditures of each year, from the formation of the township up to 1835, range from nothing to \$12: but in this year the amount in the hands of the Treasurer was \$43.06 $\frac{1}{2}$ , mostly from the sale of stray animals.

The following are two settlements in full given by the Township Board:

James Brady, Treasurer, receipts and expenditures of Washington Township for the year next preceding the year 1830.

Dr.		
Received on note on Jesse Gray.....		\$2.18 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cr.		
Paid to Henry Creviston, as per order.....	\$1.00	
Paid for paper.....	31 $\frac{1}{4}$	1.31 $\frac{1}{4}$
Balance in Treasurer's hands.....		87 $\frac{1}{4}$

HUGH MARTIN,  
JOSIAH D. ELSTON, } Trustees.  
JOHN SNELL,

JOHN S. HILLER, *Township Clerk.*

In 1833, this settlement occurs with Aaron Hiller, Treasurer:

Received nor laid out no money this year: the amount in the Treasury this year is \$20 75 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and the Treasurer makes no charge for his services.

JOHN CARNAHAN, } Trustees.  
DAVID CLAPP,

JOSEPH COLE, *Township Clerk.*

In like manner the settlements run until 1840, when money matters began to increase, especially as the public money for school purposes was handled by the Treasurer. The records show that but five different men had filled the office of Treasurer since 1827, namely: Samuel Kimber, James Brady, Aaron Hiller, John McClure and George McClure. John McClure has filled the position continuously since 1838, save one term when he was a member of the Ohio Legislature, being Treasurer thirty-six years. The office of Justice of the Peace has run much after the style of Treasurer. Aaron Hiller served as Justice for twenty-one years, and T. F. Chenoweth for twenty-three years, and is still (1876) holding that office.

In 1824, the political cast was all on one side, nearly all voting for Andrew Jackson for President, there being but three votes cast against him. Though in later years not so radical, except in 1854, when the township took another freak, and all went solid for the Know-Nothing ticket, except seven who voted the Democratic ticket. These were the extremes. Usually in township elections there has been but little party strife.

The citizens are strictly agriculturists. The township expenses have been moderate, and the rate of taxation has always been among the lowest in the county, while her improvements have equaled the best. The old survivors of the early day have seen much change. Where Indian traces wound their sinuous way through the forest, there are now many miles of turnpike roads and well-improved dirt roads. Log house and stump-marked clearing are replaced by handsome homes, well-tilled fields and well-drained lands, and the present of the township is a constant source of satisfaction to pioneers as the rightful result of years of toil.

## GERMAN TOWNSHIP.

Located in the west tier of townships and in the second tier from the south. It has been formed since December, 1820. Its lands were taken from the south part of Washington and the north part of Harrison, the north tier of sections in





the last-named township being added. Then the northern boundary was a line running some forty rods north of the Whitewater road. In June, 1827, it was reduced to its present size, which includes all of Town 11 north, Range 1 east. In December, 1833, the north tier of sections was thrown into Washington Township, but these were returned to the township in December, 1834.

In area, it includes about thirty-three square miles, or over 21,000 acres of land. The surface in the eastern part is gently undulating, and in the western part flat and level. Several sections in the south central part are considerably broken. West Branch Creek and Second Branch Creek are the principal streams. West Branch Creek drains the eastern portion. Extending along the line of its general course there is to be seen a beautiful and valuable tract, known as West Branch Prairie. In the early day, this ground was wet, boggy, and generally deemed useless for agricultural purposes, but it has been reclaimed in the main, and is productive of heavy crops. There are few places more fascinating to the eye than is this prairie as it gently slopes upward on both sides of West Branch Creek. There are numerous springs along its course, which supply it the year round with pure running water. There is virtually no waste land in the township, and there is nowhere any soil better adapted to tillage. As is well known, but not realized, the surface was in the early day covered with a growth of a great variety of forest trees. In places the sugar maple abounds, and has been utilized to the manufacture of sirups especially. Many extensive gravel beds of the best quality are interspersed throughout the southern and eastern parts. Many of them are of use in the improvement of the highways, most of which are excellent.

From indications, this township was a favorite resort for the aboriginal occupants. On the arrival of the whites, several Indian camps were found, but within a few years, they disappeared. The prairie, heretofore mentioned, was a favorite resort, having for the red man a peculiar attraction.

Old settlers affirm that a spring on the lands of Elias Ross was a special attraction, not only to the Indian, but to troops of wild animals, on account of the purity and sweetness of its waters.

Indications show at least two Indian villages of considerable size within the present limits of the township. One of these was located on Section 10, and the other on Section 3, both near fine springs. Indian implements of great variety and in considerable abundance are found strewn over the surface in the vicinity. A collection of such relics, made by C. M. Young, resident upon Section 3, within the years from 1876 to 1880, consist of about 1,000 specimens, most of which were found in this township, and many of which are rare. Remains of skeletons, supposed to have belonged to Indians, are found in abundance in many of the gravel banks, which have been opened up. One skull was found near the residence of Jesse Woods, of remarkable size.

The topography of the township shows that it possessed many points of interest and attraction; its running waters, its prairies and its gently rolling surface were points at once marked to the quick, searching eye of the pioneer, and the date of its settlement was far back toward the beginning of the century. To whom the titular honor of being the first settler belongs is hard to determine. It lies between James Cloyd and Jonathan Pearson, with the evidence in favor of the former. Mr. Cloyd was born in Virginia, in 1790, and removed to Ohio when a child. Engaged as a soldier during the war of 1812, he was stationed much of the time at Fort Greenville. In 1815, he married Elizabeth Norftsinger, daughter of Andrew Norftsinger, one of the pioneers of the county. Mr. Norftsinger had built a block-house during the troublous period, and in this he lived until peace was declared. The site of this old fortification was in Neave Township.

In 1814, Mr. Cloyd moved to this township and settled on the prairie, just south of the present site of Palestine. He was one of the first grand jury empaneled in the county, and bore a good name for energy, generosity and benevolence. His death took place May 26, 1872, and his remains rest in the Palestine





Cemetery. Jonathan Pearson settled on the prairie southeast of the village named, about 1816, but little was known of this man more than that he came originally from South Carolina, as did, also, Alexander Pearson, who was, perhaps, the third settler. Samuel Loring, who settled on the southwest quarter of Section 14, and who laid out the town of Palestine, was the next permanent settler. Peter Crumrine moved into German Township on March 12, 1817. The name of Daniel Wagner is associated with those of the pioneers. The family of which he was a member located on the northeast quarter of Section 24, on the edge of the prairie. They were originally from Berks County, Penn., whence they migrated, in 1806, to Ohio and then to this county and township. The elder Wagner was a soldier in the war for independence, and, at its conclusion, like other of the Continentals, returned to peaceful pursuits and derived a good farm for the family growing up about him. John Wagner had ten children. His oldest son, George, who was an early settler in Neave Township, was a soldier in the later war of 1812, and was one of those surrendered by the cowardly Hull at Detroit, Mich. Two other sons, Daniel and William, located in German Township. The latter, still living on the homestead, has been a resident of the township since the fall of 1816, with the exception of a single year. He was born December 1, 1806, in Montgomery County, near Germantown, and was consequently only a mere lad when he came to the township. Himself and brother Daniel, six years his senior, were sent to the farm with some stock to winter through on prairie hay, which they had cut and stacked near where the house now stands. They came with their cattle in the fall of 1816, and built a hut to serve as a temporary shelter till the family could join them in the spring. In this rude dwelling, with a family or two of Indians for their nearest neighbors, the first winter went by. They were shy and distrustful of the "sons of the forest," for the memory of atrocities committed upon the whites a few years previous was yet fresh in their minds. Daniel Wagner died March 9, 1876, just seventy-six years of age. He is remembered as a man of enterprise, fearless and free-hearted. The Wagner family were of German descent.

The fall of 1817 marked the actual beginning of the settlement of the township. A number of families arrived at this time and entering lands began the work of providing home and field. Martin Ketrang and family and George Teaford, then a young man, arrived this fall and entered a part of Section 22. These people were likewise of German descent. The former was a native German. Their more immediate previous home was Fairfield County, Ohio. John, son of Martin Ketrang, had been married previous to coming here, and is still living at a good old age. Teaford was soon married to Miss Magdalena Ketrang and raised a large family, two sons of whom still live in the township and are among the largest farmers in it. The same fall, and in October, Henry Ross, a native of Virginia, located on land in the northwest part of Section 24. He came here from Pickaway County, and, about the same time, George Stingley and family, Virginians, located on the southeast quarter of Section 12, where a son now resides. The settlement in the extreme southwest part of the township was delayed until 1826, on account of its wet, level nature. Thus, briefly, we have noted the founders of improvement in German Township, and spoken of those who more than three score years ago laid the foundation for subsequent labors.

The staple products of the township are corn and wheat, with considerable oats and barley raised. Much of the corn is fed to stock, which receive considerable attention. There is no grain market in the township; the nearest being Weaver's Station, in Neave Township, on the Piqua, Cincinnati & Indianapolis Railroad. In the early years, what surplus grain was raised was hauled by team, either to Dayton or Piqua, and later, to Richmond, Ind. No line of railroad has, as yet, been constructed through the township, though it is thought one could be built with great advantage to the people and profit to the builders. The appreciation of education was a marked feature of pioneer settlers. As early as 1820,





a schoolhouse was erected on the southwest quarter of Section 14, on land now owned by George Kester. The structure was by no means imposing or attractive. It was of logs and nailless, without glass or sawed lumber. The first teacher was William R. Jones, whose reputation comes down to us, as of "an excellent man and teacher." The second schoolhouse was built in 1822, on the northwest quarter of Section 13, on land now owned by J. Wenrick. This dates the beginning of school interests in German Township, which have held even place with those of other townships from origin. There are now eleven school buildings, besides the one situated in the village of Palestine, three of which belong to the colored settlement. The number of school children enumerated in German Township in 1870 was as follows: White youth, 364; colored, 151; total, 515; number in the Palestine school, 133; total number in the township, 648. The number of youth between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one was 140. The school buildings are all good, substantial structures, with the single exception of a frame house, and the schools are reported to be in fine condition. The first settlers were obliged to erect their cabins without the use of sawed lumber, there being no saw-mills accessible at the time, in the vicinity. One of the first demands of the settlers was for lumber, to erect buildings. In the absence of saw-mills, this want was frequently met by the use of the whip-saw, or more commonly, the punchoon. The former of these methods was extremely slow and laborious, and the latter was the dernier resort to secure lumber. To meet the urgent demands, the rude pioneer saw-mill was erected, propelled always by water power, as steam was not then in use as a motor. The first mill of this kind erected in the township was built by Joshua Mitten, in 1820, on Section 24, on West Branch. This was rude enough, but still a great advance over the former method. Some years after, this mill had been built, an apparatus for cracking corn was attached to it, and this was noted as the pioneer grist-mill of the township. She served to supply the few scattered inhabitants with cracked corn, which, at the time, largely took the place of wheat flour. In order to supply another and urgent demand, a copper still was erected on Section 36, by John Puterbaugh. Its capacity was not very great, and for its influence, value and success, we cannot speak. A cheese factory was soon started at the same place, and by the same person, the Mr. Puterbaugh above named. All of these pioneer enterprises, rude, but bespeaking a disposition to make the most of home products, have been supplanted by more pretentious and modern structures. At present, a large steam flouring-mill run by Ira McClure, and a large saw-mill owned by James McCabe, in Palestine, furnish the necessary supply in this direction in the township.

#### CHURCHES AND MINISTERS.

The first religious meetings in German Township were held in the cabins of the settlers. The pioneer preacher was Jacob Ashley, of the Lutheran Church. He came up once a month from Germantown and held services, for which he received a salary of \$12 per year. David Miller, son of old Jacob Miller, first minister of the Miami Valley, and Benjamin Bowman, came over from Indiana at an early day, and spoke to the people of things eternal and spiritual. They were ministers of the German Baptist Church. The first church built in this township was known as the "St. John's," a Lutheran enterprise, erected in 1826, south of Palestine, on land owned by John Ketrang. The old structure was constructed of tree-trunks cut from the forest surrounding, but, in 1868, this was supplanted by a more comfortable and pretentious frame building. The old church was used by the Lutherans alone for many years, and then the German Reformed organization united with them, the two using the same church, employing the same minister, but having two separate and distinct societies, and two sets of church officers. In 1866, the latter-named society re-organized, and the Lutherans from that date were merged with them. Rev. I. Stuck was the first minister under the new organization.





Wesley Chapel, on Section 29, was probably the next church erected. It was built and used up to within a few years of the present time by the Methodists. It is not now in use by any denomination. Possibly the next church building constructed was the house built on Section 24, on the farm of William Wagner, by the Lutherans. It is now used by the members of the German Reformed denomination.

The Universalist Church at Palestine was organized by Rev. Elihu Moore and ten others, on June 18, 1868. The minister named was the one first employed. Their first meetings were held in the old Palestine schoolhouse. Within a few years subsequent to the organization, the society erected their present fine building, at a cost of about \$3,000. The first officers of the society were H. L. Hill, George Kester and M. M. Jeffries, as Deacons; George Kester, Treasurer, and Harrod Mills as Clerk. Six deaths have transpired in the society since its origin, and there is a present membership of 105 persons. The Disciple Church of Palestine was organized in April, 1873, by John M. Smith, with about twenty members. Earlier meetings were held in the Universalist Church. In the summer of 1877, the denomination erected their present fine and commodious building at a cost of \$1,500. The officers at organization were Joseph Snyder and James Willery, as Elders; Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, Deacon, and J. A. Spittler, Clerk. There is an adjunct of value in a flourishing Sabbath-school, superintended by James Wilcox.

The German Baptist Church was constituted an organization at an early day by David Miller and Benjamin J. Bowman. John Weaver was the first preacher to serve the new society. He was succeeded by John Crumrine. Since then, William Marius, Mr. Harter and Jacob Miller have had charge of the congregation. Meetings were held in barns and houses till 1868, when their present fine building was erected, just south of Palestine. The membership is about one hundred and seventy-five persons. The Pleasant Grove U. B. Church is situated in the extreme northern part of the township, near the Washington line, thus serving both townships. The society was formed January 14, 1857, and meetings were held in a private house, located on the southwest quarter of Section 3, for two years, when room was supplied by the construction of the present church edifice. The organization was effected by Rev. Jacob M. Marshall. Elias Ross has been Steward since its formation. The Palestine Christian Church was organized in the year 1836, by Elijah Williamson, with a small membership. The first meetings were held in an old schoolhouse. Mr. Williamson and Richard Brandon were the first ministers. James Woods, Thomas Himes, John Crum, Joseph Heck, Henry Grove and their wives, and Philip Manuel were among the first members. The present meeting-house was built in 1859, and the society has an enrollment of 103 members.

The early custom of burial at sites near the homes has originated a number of grounds in the township. There are eight cemeteries in the township, of which the one at Palestine is the chief and largest.

The population have been peaceful and law-abiding, hence any infraction of right is the more marked. Two crimes have been committed of late, most sanguinary in character. The victims were Wesley Guger and Stephen Wade. On the evening of October 24, 1877, after dusk, a body of armed and masked men halted before the house of Mr. Guger in Palestine, called him out, and deliberately shot him down. Where the mob was from, where they went, or who they were, has never been ascertained. The murder had no grounds so far as known save a charge of petty thieving. The second murder was committed in the dead of night in the fall of 1878. Stephen Wade, a colored man, was shot in his own house by a body of mounted men, masked and armed. He was charged with stealing, or more especially with harboring his sons, who had annoyed the community by various thefts. Two notices were served upon them to leave the country. The first was thus worded: "To Stephen Wade, Robert, Benjamin and Philip Wade—you are each and every one of you hereby advised to leave and



stay away from Darke County, Ohio, within thirty days from date, or suffer the penalty. This means business." The above was penned in red ink. A second notice was dated September 14, 1878, but not received by the Wades till October 1 following. It was as follows:

"You and your whole family are hereby notified, for the last time, to leave this county in haste."

This was legibly written in black ink. No notice was given to these warnings. A mob, at midnight, surrounded Wade's dwelling, and aroused him. A shot was fired through the front window and struck an old clock just over Wade's bed. He discharged a shot into the mob, without effect, followed by yells and execrations. Wade reconnoitered from a window, and saw the mob firing at random into the house. He ran to the back door to escape, but, as he threw it open, a gun was fired, and he received a load of shot in the left eye, which penetrated the brain. A cry, and then he expired without a struggle. A post-mortem examination disclosed sixteen No. 1 shot in the brain. We turn relieved from the inscription of these acts, whose bearing is a cloud upon the fair fame of any community, and reflect upon a love of law and justice. Such acts belong in localities destitute of school and church, and the better class of townsmen reprehend them, and would gladly see their perpetrators punished with the rigors of the law.

We find that the first piece of ground platted for a village site in the township was located on the northwest quarter of Section 24. The survey was caused at the instance of Nathaniel Ross, and the incipient town at one time contained a saw and grist mill, a grocery and a store. Bright anticipations of churches, schools and factories were doomed to disappointment. A rival sprang up across the prairie, which in time proved its ruin, and New London City exists only in this brief allusion to it.

Palestine was laid out, in 1833, by Samuel Loring. A beautiful view from the site of the present village is thought to have suggested the name. Loring's plat consisted of ten lots in the southeast part of the present corporation. Kester made the first addition, just north of the original sites. Samuel Guger and Abraham Weaver laid out the northwest part, and William Miller the southwest part. Col. David Putnam has since made an addition to the northeastern part. Palestine is to-day a very flourishing country village, containing one drug store, two groceries, one dry-goods store, one hotel, two blacksmith-shops, a wagon-shop, meat-market, grist-mill, saw-mill, shoe-shop, and health is attended to by three physicians.

In the northwest corner of the township, there exists a colored settlement, the foundation of which was laid by a man named Clemens. It has grown to considerable proportions. They have three schools, and a church (Methodist Episcopal) building. There is a small hamlet, known as Tampico, here.

### NEAVE TOWNSHIP.

This township was organized on the 5th of December, 1821, and at that date contained eight sections, in what is now Van Buren Township, making it eight miles east and west and four miles north and south. All of Neave Township lying in Range 3 was taken, in June, 1838, to form the township above named, and so the present dimensions were reached.

The pioneer settler in the lands now constituting Neave Township was Andrew Noftsinger, who came to Darke County in 1810. Sometime about 1817, he built a grist-mill on Mud Creek, below the outlet of the lake, where later stood the mill of Dr. Otwell. In the order of construction, this was the third mill built in the county. At the old post, known as Fort Jefferson, James Hayes was one of the earliest settlers. John Ryerson moved in in 1816, and during the two years following, settlement was made in the township by Moses Arnold, George W. Hight, William Townsend, Hezekiah Veitz, John Puterbaugh and Christian Schlechty.





Dennis Hart, of Connecticut, located on Bridge Creek, in the fall of 1819, on the lands of George, W. N. Wright, near the farm now owned by A. H. Vandyke. During the year 1820, the neighbors built a log schoolhouse, on the Greenville and Eaton road, east of the present residence of A. H. Vandyke, on the land then owned by Joseph Townsend. In this house, Mr. Hart taught during the winter of 1820-21. Mr. Hart died at the ripe age of eighty-four years. He was known as an honorable and worthy townsman.

Peter Weaver came from Butler County, Ohio, to this township in 1819; here purchased land, cleared him a farm, and year after year has found him living upon it, till 1880. He built the first house in Weaver's Station, named after him, and since grown into a thriving little town. On his first arrival, he found here a block-house, situated about one-fourth of a mile north of where Mount Zion Church now stands. This rude pioneer fort was built by Mr. Noftsinger, of whom we have spoken. It is claimed by some that this same man built the first cabin in the county. It was located on Mud Creek, about one-half a mile south of Mr. Weaver's cabin, as early as 1816. Its structure was unique and commensurate with the ability of the builders. It consisted of forks set in the ground, upon which poles were placed, and covered with clapboards.

In 1819, John Puterbaugh built a mill, whose motive power was found in oxen. It stood about two and a half miles southeast of Mr. Weaver's land. This improvement dispensed with water-power, and motion was communicated to the buhrs by cog-wheel connection with an upright shaft, which was turned by attaching oxen to transverse levers, passing through it. When the inflow of settlers and the organization of the county into townships set in operation a system by means of which public improvements could be made, numerous roads were laid, and took up a sinuous course around obstructions, and in close proximity to settlers' doors. Sparse settlements caused the formation of districts extensive in area and meager in population.

Mr. Weaver went six miles to the first bridge that was erected across the mouth of Mud Creek, to work out his road tax. As an illustration of the manner of procedure, it is said that settlers were accustomed to work during the winter clearing a patch of ground. This was planted to corn in the spring, and in the fall it was sown to wheat or other winter grain.

When the settler wanted groceries, he went into the woods and cut a load of hoop-poles, and took them for sale to Martinsburg. Coonskins and hoop-poles were Darke County currency in those days. All the cabins, single and double, were built of logs, with puncheon-logs split and hewed on one side for floors; greased paper took the place of glass, and wood latch and string were the pioneer's substitute for door-knob and bell. At this time there were only two cabins between what is now Louisville and Matchett's Corner, and only one little cabin between Weaver's and Fort Jefferson. Deer, turkeys, bear and other animals abounded, and furnished meat supply to the table. Mr. Weaver himself killed about one hundred deer, two bears, and very many turkeys. As is the case with all old sportsmen, Mr. Weaver enjoys a relation of early experiences, and tells the following concerning a bear-hunt in which he was engaged.

It so happened that he had loaned his gun to some boys of the neighborhood, to kill squirrels, and after hunting nearly till night the dogs struck the trail of a bear, which they followed rapidly, and soon drove the animal to seek refuge in a tree.

It was near where Mr. Weaver chanced to be, and, hearing an outcry, he went to the spot and found several of the settlers already standing around the tree, endeavoring to get a good position for an effective shot. Weaver took his gun from one of the number, and soon after delivered his fire at the bear. But the load did not even cause the animal to change position. A neighbor then fired, and struck a leg, upon which the bear scrambled down, and set off up the banks of the creek, followed pell-mell in hot pursuit by all the men and dogs. One only





remained behind of the men. Weaver stopped to put a heavy charge in his gun, and had just completed the act and was about to set forward when down the creek he saw men, dogs and bear coming back with as great celerity as they had departed, and the conditions were reversed, and instead of many for the one, it was one for the many. Weaver waited till the bear was within ten feet of him, when he fired with fatal effect.

George Noggle and T. C. Neave, William and Simeon Chapman and Adam Belles were all of that class known as early settlers in this township. It is said that, when this township was organized, a game of cards was played by H. D. Williams and John Douglass on the one side, against Easton Morris and T. C. Neave on the other, to determine who should have the honor of giving to it a name. The first party won, and they two playing again between themselves, the game was won by Williams, but Neave was so anxious to name the township, that he paid Williams \$10 for the privilege, and then named it after himself. Fort Jefferson, built by the soldiers of St. Clair, in 1791, was the first structure erected by white people in the county. There is much of real interest connected with this old post which should be gleaned and placed on record.

The schoolhouses of this township are all of brick, well built, comfortable, and supplied with the apparatus needed to advance school work.

There are a number of churches in the township, among which are a Methodist and a Union Church at Fort Jefferson, a United Brethren near Weaver's Station, and a church at Sampson. The village of Fort Jefferson was laid out in 1818, and Sampson in 1846. There are about fifty miles of road, much of which is piked. The population in 1870, of Neave Township, was 1,093.

### VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP.

In June, 1838, Van Buren Township was organized, and named after the President then in office. James Gower, an early settler and a present pioneer of ninety-three years, was the "moving spirit" in its formation, which was not accomplished without much opposition and difficulty, and this now aged man was he who gave the township its name. It was taken from the south end of Adams and the east end of Neave, and contained all of Township 8 north Range 4 east, that is in this county, and all of Township 9 north, Range 3 east, except Sections 5, 6, 7 and 8, which are included in Greenville Township. In June, 1839, Franklin Township was formed, containing all of Van Buren east of a line running north from the southwest corner of Section 36, Township 9 north Range 3. The township, as now constituted, contains twenty-six sections. The surface is extremely level and the soil excels in fertility, being of alluvial formation, with good body to it. In years past, from one to five feet of water covered most of the surface, during half the year. Now, by an artificial system of drainage, it has been reclaimed to the uses of civilization, and is producing a hundred fold. The eastern part of the township is not so well advanced in improvement as is the rest, from the fact that its lands were, for many years, held mostly by speculators, who would not or at least did not either dispose of or improve it. There are no considerable water-courses in the township, the channels by which its surface is drained being small tributaries to Greenville and Panther Creeks. An extensive moraine passes from north to south through it, along the track of which are found an abundance of bowlders, many of which are of remarkable size, being from ten to twelve feet in diameter. Some gravel beds have been deposited on its surface, which afford convenient and valuable material for the improvement of public highways. The roads are mostly in good condition, the larger proportion of them being piked. Some of these, however, from much travel and heavy hauling, are well-nigh worn out, and need considerable repairs. The staple products are corn and wheat, the soil being admirably adapted to the cultivation of the former grain. Barley, oats, rye and tobacco are raised to a considerable extent. The entire township is thoroughly



agricultural, and in 1870 contained a population of 1,212, a small part of whom were colored and some foreigners. A few settlements were made within the present limits of the township before the close of the first quarter of a century, but improvements were slowly made, and for many years the clearings formed a small part of the area of the lands, owing to the wet, swampy condition of the country. Just who was the first settler and when he moved in, cannot be known with precision. There were probably no settlers in Van Buren Township previous to 1818, about which time several men built them cabins within its present limits. Samuel Pearce, Samuel Martin and Elias Burt were probably the first to erect houses in Van Buren, in about 1818. Eli Townsend and Jacob Sebring followed soon after. In the spring of 1820, came John Charkwith, and settled in the extreme southwest corner of the township. He was born in New Jersey, and came to this part of Darke County from Montgomery. Isaac Byers, who was the first Justice of the Peace, moved up from Preble County the same spring: a Virginian by birth, he yet preferred this section to his native State. His widow still survives. James Gregory settled, about this time or perhaps a year or so sooner, on lands he afterward sold to Benjamin Roe, and now owned by William Shields. David and William Byers, brothers to Isaac, came soon after he had got located. Richard and James Gower moved, in 1826, into the extreme north part of the township, where they were among the first settlers. John Fourman entered land in the southeast part of the township. Mordecai Ford, who was the first Clerk in Van Buren, was, also, a pioneer. Jacob Potoff, at Nineveh, was an early settler at that point, and is remembered to have built the first blacksmith-shop in the township. Several others are deserving of mention in this connection, as pioneers of Van Buren, but authentic accounts of them have not been gained. The first election of the township was held in the smithery of Potoff, at Nineveh, at which time there were about forty or fifty votes cast. Improvements progressed quite slowly for some time, the characteristic pioneer cabin prevailing for many years. Finally, these began to give way to the more pretentious frame buildings, and occasionally a brick residence made its appearance. The first two of the last-named were built by John Fourman and John Walker. At the present day, there are many fine frame dwellings and substantial brick residences in the township.

There being no water-power facilities of any consequence, manufacturing industries developed slowly. The first mill of any kind in Van Buren was an old "flutter-wheel" saw-mill built by John Fourman, on Panther Creek. This establishment furnished lumber for a large tract of country for a considerable period, some of the buildings in the extreme southern part of the county having been furnished with lumber from this mill. The second mill of this kind was erected near Jaysville, by Messrs. Kilbourne and Jay. There are now four saw-mills in the township, with capacities ranging from three to six thousand feet per day. These represent the manufacturing interests of Van Buren.

Schools began in a small, crude way, about a half-century ago, and have steadily advanced to their present flourishing condition. There is a great contrast between the pioneer-log houses and their rude belongings, as compared with the newest structures. Then a single small rude house stood on the land of William Townsend, and within was Mordecai Ford, well skilled to rule and ferule. Now there are eight substantial brick buildings, having ten rooms, and requiring the employment of eight teachers. School statistics for the year ending August 31, 1879, are as follows: Amount paid teachers, \$1,906.20; expense of sites and buildings, \$2,143.14; incidental expenses, \$499.97, and the entire expenditure was \$4,549.31. There were eight gentlemen and five ladies, or a total of thirteen teachers employed, at wages averaging, for males, \$39, and for females, \$20; 212 boys, 180 girls, or a total of 392 pupils attended the schools; the average monthly enrollment was, of boys, 161; of girls, 139; total, 300. Daily attendance of boys, 114; of girls, 99; total, 213.

To the Christian denomination belongs the honor of having first borne the Gos-





into the forests of Van Buren. The pioneers of this sect were Revs. Sneithen, Ashley, Williams and Mordecai Ford. They erected their first church in 1851, at Delisle. There are now three churches in the township. Two United Brethren and one Methodist. The former at Abbottsville, and the Methodist at Jaysville, were built about the same time, not far from 1850. The other United Brethren Church was built about 1868 or 1870, at Nineveh, and was called Keyler's Chapel, from the name of him who was the means of its construction.

There are but two cemeteries in the township, one of which, old and dilapidated, is now almost abandoned. The first was established nearly fifty years ago by the society of the Christian Church, and is known as the Abbottsville cemetery. The second was recently established under the auspices of the Township Trustees, and is located upon a fine tract of six acres, inclosed with a substantial board fence.

There are several small villages in the township, but the tendency was to farms exclusively. The proximity to Greenville and Arcanum to a great extent dispenses with the necessity of more than exist. The first regularly laid out town in the township was Abbottsville, deriving its name from its founder, Abbott. This center for a time made an advance which promised much to its anxious inhabitants, but it was a transient effort, and its existence is known only to the pages of history. The eager speculation of that day caused the platting of thousands of sites which showed in later years a few ominous-looking houses and straggling occupants and seeming mourners of a drifting center of settlement, and Abbott was one of those not favored. Storekeeping was first engaged in by George and William Falkners and in addition to the store, there was a wagon and blacksmith shop. Delisle, now the only village regularly laid out in Van Buren Township, was platted under direction of the widow Fairchild in 1850, and a building for the purpose having been erected, the pioneer store in the place was opened by John Tillman and Jesse Lease. Aaron Vanatta was the first smith. The village, as at present constituted, contains a dry-goods and grocery store, a blacksmith and a wagon shop and saw-mill. It is located on the Dayton & Union Railroad, which gave rise to the place.

Jaysville is a small hamlet on the same road, and is located about five miles south of Greenville. It contains a single store and a saw-mill. In the township, there are three post offices—one at Delisle, at Jaysville and at Poplar Ridge, in the northeast part of the township.

### FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP.

This township comprehends thirty sections, or over nineteen thousand acre, of land. It lies in the eastern tier of townships, and was formed in June, 1839, from a portion of Van Buren Township. It received its name from the illustrious printer, Benjamin Franklin, and possesses a surface almost a monotonous level, the sameness being broken here and there by occasional gravel drift or cairn.

The soil is extremely fertile, and is composed of a rich alluvial formation of well-nigh inexhaustive durability. Formerly, it was very wet, but has now been nearly all reclaimed by general and thorough drainage. The principal stream is Painter Creek, which flows diagonally across the township. Entering in the southwest corner, it trends to the northeast till it reaches the northeast corner of Section 18, whence it takes an almost due east course, passing out of the township in the southeast corner of Section 9. This, with its tributaries, constitutes the central drainage system of the town. The northern part is drained by tributaries of Greenville Creek, and the southeastern by tributaries to the Stillwater.

In the way of improvements, Franklin Township is not in the van, but, since 1870, rapid advance has been made in this respect. The chief products are corn and wheat. The cultivation of tobacco has become a subject engaging considerable attention.





The manufacturing interests are not extensive, there being only three saw-mills in the township.

The German Baptists had the first organization in the township. Philip Younce, a minister of this society, preached the first sermon in this part of the county. Having held meetings for some time at their several homes, the people at length erected a building on land now owned by Samuel Bean, for such use as occasion might require, and the Baptists therein held services.

The Christians were the second religious sect to form an organization in Franklin, and, in time, built them a church on land now owned by John Spidel. The sect has now two organizations in the township, the one named, and the other in the northeastern part of the township. This latter society was formed, in 1877, with seventy members, now increased to one hundred.

The "Brethren in Christ" have had a society since 1863. This was founded, with twelve members, by Revs. John Winger and Jacob Swank. The society now numbers thirty-eight members.

The German Baptists now have a fine church building on the farm of John Flory. The above denominations comprise all the religious bodies in the township.

Daniel Oakes is by some accredited with having been the first white man to build a cabin within the limits of Franklin. He came hither from Montgomery County, and settled on the banks of Panther Creek, on land now owned by Hiram Rhodes. Theophilus Penny arrived about the same time as Oakes, and entered land now owned by Jacob Swinger. Eli Inman was the pioneer in the northeast corner of the town, to which he removed from Miami County. Elisha Penny, Christian Newcomer, Martin Brant, Jacob Stauffer, Henry Finnfrock, William and John Hess, Samuel Hall, John Hayworth, John Karl, Gideon Varnum, Jacob Marker, Varnum Aldrich, Charles Birch and John Brooks were all early settlers in Franklin. Hall and Hayworth came in 1824; Eli Inman, in 1826. William Hess, in 1829 or 1830, opened a little stock of goods and groceries, consisting principally of whisky and tobacco, these being disposed of to the settlers; there was received in exchange staves, hoop-poles, skins and pelts.

In 1830, Jacob Marker, an old wagoner, came and settled on land now owned John Swinger. He had a good team of horses, and a strong wagon, and his services were in almost constant demand, hauling staves, etc., to Dayton, loading back with salt and other goods for the stores on his route, and to those of Greenville, Adams' mill, etc. Until the date of the township's formation in 1839, the settlers voted at New Harrison or Adams' mill, as the little settlement was then called.

The first schoolhouse built in the township was put up by John Hess in 1838, on the present farm of Hiram Rhodes, on Section 19, on Panther Creek. Prior to this, however, school had been taught for some time in a private house owned by William Hammel, and located on the Swinger farm. The first teacher was David Clevine. There are now in the township seven brick schoolhouses and one frame. There are 655 youth of both sexes in the township, ranging in age from six to twenty-one. Between sixteen and twenty-one, there are 131 persons. The amount paid teachers was \$2,111.26; contingent expenses, \$264.24; total, \$2,375.50. Value of school property is \$8,000. The average wages is \$38 and \$18, and the average time of school session for the year was thirty-four weeks. There is but one village in the township; it is known as Vienna. It is situated on the Greenville and Milton turnpike, in the south central part of Franklin, and was laid out in 1870 by George Wright and John Hayworth. The hamlet contains two dry-goods stores, a confectionery and a saloon. There are in Franklin two post offices, and the population in 1870 was 1,366.

On October 23, 1879, Wiley Coulter was shot to death by Monroe Roberson in Vienna. He died on the evening of the next day. Roberson was tried in February, 1880, and March 6, was sentenced by Judge Meeker to be kept in solitary confinement until Friday, July 16, 1880, and on that day to be "hanged by the



back until you are dead, and may God have mercy on your soul. Such is the penalty to follow an outraged law.

### MONROE TOWNSHIP.

Monroe Township was laid off in June, 1836, being taken from the east end of Twin Township, and contained all of Township 7 north, Range 4 east, that is in the county, and the eastern tier of sections of Township 8 north, Range 3 east. This is the southeastern township of the county, and is bounded on the north by Franklin Township, on the east by Miami County, on the south by Preble and Montgomery Counties, and on the west by Twin Township. Ludlow's Creek runs diagonally across the northeast part of the township, entering the east half of Section 6, and running south by east, leaves the township from the center of Section 16. This creek has many small tributaries that afford excellent outlets for the many underground drains that farmers are putting in to dry out and warm up the land. In an early day this township was very low and wet, but, owing to the large quantity of decayed vegetable matter, these low lands are very productive; in fact, what was once swamp and quagmire is now choice farming lands.

There is no village or city within the boundaries of this township, but a place that bears the name of Pittsburg, of which, perhaps, in a day away back in the past, some had an idle dream of future greatness. But, alas, the ravages of time, the destroyer of all things, have lain in the dust the ambitions of its founders, and Pittsburg lives only in name and story.

The first to brave a settlement in this township, and undergo the privations and hardships of a pioneer life in a wilderness, was Asa Jones and Henry Addington, who built their cabins on Section 8, in about 1819. They were followed the next year by Mr. Mote and family, who were the third actual settlers in the township, and he lived only one year after his settlement when he died, the first death that occurred among the settlers. His remains were taken to Milton, Miami County, for burial.

Thomas Jones, brother of Asa, came in 1823, and settled in the northern part of the township, and George Gabel in the southern part in the same year. Among others who settled in the township in an early day were William and John Richardson in the northern part, Samuel Cams and Peter Shank in the southern part, and Joseph Brown, Peter Abram and John Snorph in the southwestern part. Settlers came in very slowly, which can be attributed only to the wretched state of the country at this time.

Reader, imagine, if you can, this beautiful country of to-day, shrouded in the mantle that nature gave it, a dense forest, gloomy and almost impenetrable swamps, not a mark of civilization to greet the eye of the hardy pioneer; no churches, no schools, with nothing but the howl of the wolf, the screech of the panther, the rapid flight of the timid deer; the whoop of the red man or the whiz of his arrow, to break the enchanted stillness that reigned supreme in nature's wild dominion. Such was the condition of this now beautiful township of Monroe, with its highly improved and productive farms, its fine residences, its commodious barns, its churches, its schools, its roads; and, can we not truthfully say, we owe as great a debt of gratitude to those early pioneers, as we do to our fathers that broke the chain of oppression, and freed our beloved country from the despotic rule of cruel tyranny. We certainly do, for freedom and civilization go hand in hand; advancement and development are the fruits of liberty, and most nobly have these pioneers discharged the duty intrusted to them, and we are in the possession to-day of the fruits of their labor and privation.

### CHURCHES.

In an early day, these pioneers, like the Israelites of old, were without a place in which to worship, but with a spirit true to devotion, they met in each others'





cabins, and raised their voices in unison and praise in magnifying the name of their great Preserver. Among the early pioneer preachers in this locality was Philip Younce, a German Baptist, who preached the first sermon within the present bounds of Monroe Township.

This denomination of religionists began their labors in the Miami Valley, at the same time the first ray of civilization illumined the great forest, and with a purpose as true to the development of Christianity as the magnetic needle to the pole. They have kept unswervingly to their course, have triumphed over every opposition, borne down every calumnious thrust, and to-day the beautiful Miami Valley is dotted with their churches, their schools, their other improvements and developments. In fact, the little germ planted and so carefully nourished and trained has expanded and grown, and to-day its success is without a parallel in the great Miami Valley. These people are unostentatious, make no display of finery, or a gaudy appearance, are strictly temperate, industrious, and are among the best citizens to be found in the land. They have two churches, one in Monroe Township, the other in Franklin; they are known as the Ludlow and Painter Creek District, and have a membership of 400, who are presided over by the Rev. Jesse Stutsman, Elder William Cassell and the Rev. Tobias Kreider, all gentlemen of ability and refinement, and are doing good work in the advancement of Christianity and enlightenment.

The first members of the German Baptist Church that lived in America emigrated from Swartzenau, Germany, in the year 1719, and settled in Germantown, Penn. They had been severely persecuted on account of their religious faith, and fled to America with a hope of gaining liberty and having the privilege of worshipping God according to the dictates of their own conscience and according to His word. For sixty years their progress was slow, owing to the difficulties and hardships of a new country in its unsettled state, caused by the French war of 1755 and the Revolution, twenty years later, and many subsequent Indian wars along the borders of the new settlements. The Indian's ruthless hand was severely felt, and many fell victims to the scalping knife. At times, their danger was so severely felt that when the father or sons left the house they bade their friends good bye, with a fear of never meeting them again.

But the long, long night of woe finally began to give way, and a bright morn shone forth, which has lasted for over a century, and still shines. In 1745, Christopher Saur printed the first German Bible in America, also edited the first paper ever issued from the church. They organized their first Sabbath-school in 1740, and the first annual conference, of which we have any knowledge, was held in 1778. The liberty and protection the Constitution of the United States gave them instilled new energy, and their progress became more visible.

The first meeting-house of the church that we have any account of was built in Franklin County, Penn., in 1798.

The first Brother that settled in Virginia was John Garber, in Flat Rock Valley, in 1777; he was an eminent minister, and built up a large congregation. From this valley, Jacob Miller moved to Ohio, and settled on the west side of the great Miami River, near Dayton, in 1800. He was the first one that settled west of the river, and was an able man, and labored faithfully in the cause of promoting and advancing the principles of Christianity. He was born in Pennsylvania, in 1735, and, at the time of his arrival in Ohio, the country was a dense forest, inhabited by numerous tribes of Indians. It is said of Brother Miller that he often visited them in their wigwams and sang and prayed with them, that his kind treatment led them to protect him. They said he was the good man the Great Spirit sent from the East. He raised a very exemplary family of twelve children, nine sons and three daughters; three of his sons became able ministers, and reside in Indiana, and have done much in building up the church in that State, which numbers eighty-five organizations at present. There are, at this time, about seventy-five organized churches in Ohio, with very large, commodious houses for worship.





There are organized churches in twenty of the States of the Union, and one in Denmark, with an estimated membership, in the aggregate, of over one hundred thousand.

There are eleven religious periodicals printed by members of the church, and devoted to its advancement.

There are three colleges under control of the church—one at Mount Morris, Ill., conducted by Elder J. W. Stein; one at Ashland, Ohio, conducted by Elder S. G. Sharp, and one at Berlin, Penn., conducted by Elder James Quirter. These colleges are large and commodious, and have all the advantages and conveniences of modern architecture. The students are watched over with great care, and everything of an immoral nature is strictly excluded, and students are welcomed, regardless of religion or sect, if they conform to the moral standard required. Their church has four organized congregations in Darke County, with a membership of eleven hundred—one congregation in the southern part of the county, known as Ludlow and Painter Creek; one in the northeast part, known as Oakland; one in the northwest part, known as Union City, and one in the southwest, known as Palestine Congregation. There are twenty-three resident ministers of this denomination in the county, and they have nine houses of worship, which are very neatly constructed and finished.

The Lutherans also have a church organization in the township, but are not so numerous as their German Baptist brethren. They have a good church building, and a membership of about forty, presided over by the Rev. Mr. Peters, a very able clerical gentleman.

Great enthusiasm prevails among the people in regard to their church, and a true Christian feeling predominates among the members. They are the best of citizens, take great pride, generally, in educating their children, are sober and industrious, and their farm improvements are number one in every particular. They are mostly old settlers, and came here with little or no money, and, by hard labor and good management (characteristics of the German people), they have made good, comfortable homes, and are living in the full enjoyment of all the necessities of life.

There are, also, a goodly number in the township belonging to other denominations, of which we might mention the Baptists, the Methodists, the Brethren in Christ, etc., but, as they belong to churches outside of the township, cannot, properly, be spoken of here.

#### SCHOOLS.

A school district was laid out in this township in 1836, three east and west and one mile in width, thus leaving out a mile on the western side. Much dissatisfaction was caused by this arrangement, so new districts two miles square were formed, and in 1837, a schoolhouse which had been partly finished was removed to Section 28. There are now seven school buildings in the township, erected at an estimated cost of \$6,000. The township has a total enumeration of 548 scholars. Enrollment—males 230, females 216, total 446. Average daily attendance, 126 boys and 140 girls; average per cent in attendance 72; number between sixteen and twenty-one years of age, 39 boys and 31 girls; total, 70. Average price paid teachers per school month—men, \$40; ladies, \$20. Thus we see that the school advantages in this township are good, and the people in general are making strenuous efforts to educate their children, which certainly is very commendable to the patrons of the schools.

Asa Jones, Monroe's first settler, taught the first school in the township. Children were obliged to come long distances, and we were surprised in looking over old records to find the average per cent in attendance quite as good as now.

The journeying of the children to and from school at certain times was fraught with great peril, and the labyrinth in the woods was so intricate that roads had to be "blazed" so that the children might not lose their way.

The first schoolhouse was a small log structure with puncheon floor, and



clapboard roof sections of the logs were removed to admit the light of day, and again replaced as a protection against the fury of storms and the biting blasts of winter. A fireplace in one end gave warmth and comfort to the occupants. In the severity of the winter, a semi-circle was formed around this fireplace, and frequently an exchange of places would occur, so that all might have a slight benefit of the coveted place, but I am sorry to say the schoolmaster most generally occupied the "warm seat," much to the dissatisfaction of his pupils.

Seats were improvised by splitting linn logs in two, boring holes in the ends into which wooden pins were inserted, so that the flat side would be up, and undoubtedly these made very comfortable seats for the boys and girls of fifty years ago.

No maps, charts, globes or finely glazed black boards adorned the walls, no improved text-books to elucidate the mysteries of science, thus making school days more profitable and agreeable. Owing to these disadvantages, it was only by dint of hard labor and persevering industry that the young men and women of an early day acquired the rudiments of an education, and from these humble temples of knowledge men of sterling worth and ability have descended.

### TWIN TOWNSHIP.

Twin Township was erected in July, 1817, from Greenville Township, which then comprised the whole territory within the limits of Darke County, consequently Twin was the second civil division of land made. Its limits embraced all that part of the county south of a line running due east from the northeast corner of Section 31, Town 11 north, Range 1 east.

The area of the township has been reduced by the successive formation of other townships till it now lacks one tier of sections on the east, of including all of Town 8 north, Range 3 east. Its name was taken from Twin Creek. It contains no considerable streams. Miller's Fork rises in the northwestern part, and flows in a southerly course, passing out of the township from Section 33. This stream throughout its course flows with a rapid current, and with its many tributaries affords an excellent system of drainage for the surrounding country. Painter Creek flows eastward across the north part of the town on into the Stillwater. Several creeks which flow into Ludlow's Creek head in the eastern part and afford drainage thereto.

The eastern half and north part of Twin Township have a flat surface, originally swamp lands. The rest of the land has a more elevated and rolling surface. The soil is rich, black and very productive. Corn, wheat, oats, flax and barley are successfully and profitably grown, and the cultivation of tobacco is gradually assuming greater proportions as acreage annually increases, the strong soil being well adapted to sustain its rank growth. There is scarcely any waste land. Most farms are well improved, and the general appearance of the country suggests thrift and enterprise. Twin was early settled. Miller's Fork, with swift water and high land, attracted the settlers' eyes, and Wayne's trail from Lewisburg to Fort Jefferson and Greenville ran along the banks of the stream. Here the pioneer was monarch, untrammelled by society restraints, and free to wage war with the kingly trees of the forest. The pioneer of Twin Township was Jacob North. The date of his arrival is conjectured to have been previous to or during the war of 1812. He moved from the Lewisburg settlement and built his domicile on the creek bank, near the present location of the township cemetery. His sojourn was but transient. The passions of the red men were aroused, and depredations upon his little property became frequent. North was several times admonished to leave the locality, but he apprehended no danger and still remained. At length, Stoner and Elliott fell victims to the tomahawk and scalping-knife, and the pioneer was marked as a victim. One day, a half-breed quietly stepped into his cabin and informed him that for the safety of himself and family he had better return





to the settlement *at once*. Acting upon this advice, Mr. North and his wife gathered up their few movables and went back to his old home. Shortly following his departure, a party of Indians surrounded his cabin and burned it to the ground, and it was probably well for the owner that a friend had given him warning. Thus terminated the first attempt at a residence in the land of Twin Township.

On Christmas Day, 1800, a company of emigrants began a long and toilsome journey from North Carolina westward, across the Ohio River, and northward, into the Indian country. Accounts of the fair, fertile valleys of the Miamis had reached their homes and incited them to go forward to settle upon the banks of the Upper Miami. These emigrants located north of Dayton, in the fertile valley of the Stillwater. From the ranks of this colony, about 1816, came the first permanent settlers of our township. The van was led by Richard Robbins, born in Randolph County, N. C., where he celebrated his marriage previous to his removal to the Stillwater. He became a resident of Twin Township in 1815, having settled on land just west of the present site of Ithaca. From this dates the actual settlement of the township. The war had closed, but the Indians remained, and white and red men regarded each other with distrust. Both went armed. One day, while Robbins was feeding some pigs which were confined in a small pen to protect them from the wolves, the sharp report of a flint-lock rifle was heard, and the settler saw an Indian neighbor withdrawing his body behind a tree hard by. He charged the attempt to shoot him upon the Indian, who earnestly denied any such intention. Robbins would not be convinced. He always maintained that the shot was fired with a view of getting possession of a fine rifle much coveted by the Indians. The settler was carried off by an attack of the measles, in 1824. David Lucas, from the same company of immigrants, followed Robbins in 1816, and located just south of Ithaca on land owned by Champe McGoff. In the same spring, two brothers, William and Eli Curtner, entered land and began a clearing further up Miller's Fork, on land now owned by Mr. Albright. These men located here in March, and in May following, a son, named William, was born to Eli Curtner, and this was the first white child born in the township.

The fall of 1816 brought in a few more settlers from the Stillwater. Land was cheap and good, and attracted many intent upon securing themselves homes. One after another settled along the creek and began his labor, encouraged by the older settlers, former neighbors. In the fall, came Philip Shank, his father, Frederick, and their families, and entered the land now owned by George Corwin. Again the season went round, and again there came an influx of immigrants. David Shearer and James McDole settled on the Colville farm, just west of Ithaca. The Shanks were natives of Virginia; and of the earliest settlers on the Stillwater. Philip Rutter, of Virginia, and Daniel Baumgardner, of North Carolina, located on Section 16, school land; three brothers, Isaac, Thomas and George Walker, primarily from Rhode Island, and later from Virginia and Tennessee, from which State they early made their way to Stillwater Valley, whence they moved to this township, locating on land owned by Troxel & Trump. Frazee Doty came in the spring of 1817, and settled just west of Ithaca, on land now owned by Matthew Guy. Mr. Doty was one of Twin's prominent townsmen, and officiated as a local minister. A few years ago, he removed to Missouri, where, a short time ago, he was found by the roadside dead, as was the horse which he had been driving. The cause of the accident was unknown. Mrs. Doty, his widow, Mrs. Shank, wife of Philip Shank, and Mrs. Curtner, wife of William Curtner, are the only surviving persons of the original first settlers. During the fall of 1817, quite an addition was made to the settlement from Stillwater. Andrew Burkett was one who came at this time. For several years, immigration was slow, but constant. We are not able to trace in order the arrival of settlers; however, we may recall Michael Bickett, Emery Rogers and William Lemon, who was the first Justice of the Peace and Captain of the militia company of the neighborhood. For many years, the east and northeast parts of the township remained somewhat unsettled, owing to





the swampy condition of the surface. but, in time, these lands were entered. drainage was resorted to, and, as elsewhere, they have become by far the choice farming lands of the country.

The early settlers have nearly all been called from their toils and privations to final rest. Peace be to their memories, green grow the grass over their graves. May the present generation preserve inviolate, and carry to perfection, the sacred heritage bequeathed by them. In this as in nearly all newly settled countries, the industries dependent upon trade were slow of development. Pioneer wants were proportionate to their abilities to satisfy them. Milling was done at the Stillwater and Big Twin, at the Lewisburg settlement, for many years. The first mill—and this appellation is scarcely applicable to it—was erected upon a branch in Section 32, by John Osbrook. This was the old-fashioned corn cracker, and cracked corn then constituted one of the staple articles of food. The daily capacity was limited to a few bushels, and the mill ran but a short period of the year. The first saw-mill built was on Miller's Creek, near Ithaca, by the enterprising John Colville. This man was an early settler, and by energy and enterprise did much for his neighbors and for the township. This mill, like the preceding, was imperfect and rude, but answered its purpose and well fulfilled its work. As the country increased and the wants of the townsmen demanded more pretentious manufactures, these were supplied by remodeling the old mills or by building others. The water-power of the country was defective and difficult of being utilized. Steam power had to be introduced. The first steam grist-mill was erected in Ithaca, by Caswell Sharp. This marked an epoch in the milling line of this section of country. The mill is still in use, being owned and operated by Watson West, and doing good work. In order to preserve the health and spirits of the community, a copper still was erected in the southern part of the township by Daniel Phillips. It was probably the only one ever operated in Twin Township. How long this "venomous worm" was operated, or what was its capacity, it is not known, but it was inefficient to meet the local demand. If ever intemperance reigned and ruined in after-times in the history of the township, but little harm can be charged to this still. There are now in the township three grist-mills of good capacity and four saw-mills, three of which are circular, with large capacity. These, with several manufactories in Arcanum to be mentioned hereafter, now mark the improvement which the industry and enterprise of a half century have wrought in the township. Almost as soon as the settler had provided a shelter for himself and family, he took counsel with his neighbor for the erection of a place for public worship. From house to house the preacher traveled until increased numbers permitted a house, and as time wore on this was kept in repair, until increased wealth enabled the worshipers to erect churches in cost and character in accord with the times.

The first ones to bear the glad tidings of salvation to the settlers of Twin Township were Abraham Sneethan and Levi Purviance, of the Christian society. Who came first is not known, and a third name, that of John Williams, is given as a cotemporary with them. This trio were early engaged in the work of disseminating Gospel truths. The first church built in the township was by the Christians, on land now owned by W. H. Tillman. At a later period, they erected another church, just one mile south of Arcanum. Both of these have gone down years ago, and now the denomination which was seen to have planted the first germs of practical religion in Twin Township has no organization within its boundaries. The United Brethren in Christ had the next regular organization. They built their first church in Ithaca, where the present one now stands, which building was the second of the kind raised in the township, nearly fifty years ago. The church interest is strong and healthy at both Ithaca and Arcanum.

The Methodists, progressing with the van of civilization, were here, as elsewhere, early promulgators of the Scriptures in Twin Township. The first organization was effected at Ithaca, in 1840, with forty-two members, and two years





subsequently, their present house of worship was erected, the first in the township. They now have three societies—one at Ithaca, one at Gordon, and the third at Arcanum. Four other organizations, two of them Lutherans, one German Reformed and one Baptist, complete the list of the religious associations in Twin Township.

There are two cemeteries in the township; these cities of the dead are both located at Ithaca. One is under the control of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the other belongs to the township, and takes its origin from the date of the first settlement therein. Here was buried Jacob Baumgardner, who died in the spring of 1817, and was the first burial in the township.

Twin has its full proportion of villages, there being three regularly laid out villages within its limits. The oldest in point of survey is Ithaca, which was platted by John Colville, in 1832. This served as the trading center for a circumference of many miles and for a number of years. Joseph Evans established the first dry-goods store in the place. It was kept by "Jacky" North, previously mentioned. The first tavern, or at least place where the public were invited to "bed and board," was kept by Eli Shearer, upon the site occupied by the present hotel. The village now contains one dry-goods store, one grocery, one clothing store, two blacksmith-shops, one hotel, and among shops, a shoe, a meat, a harness, a cabinet and an undertaker's. There is a single physician only in the place.

Here are the headquarters of Ithaca Lodge, F. & A. M., No. 295, whose charter was granted July 17, 1857. At this time the members were William H. Matchett, Daniel Ridenour, William Colville, S. C. Engle, Martin J. Colville, Milton McNeal, J. H. Engle, Caswell Sharp, Clark Baker and Elijah Heath.

The first Master was William H. Matchett; the first Senior Warden, Clark Baker; the first Junior Warden, Martin Colville. The lodge has a present membership of sixty-three, and is in a flourishing condition. They have a large three-story building, whose uppermost room is large, spacious, well furnished and in use as a lodge-room.

The next place laid out was Arcanum, in 1849, by Gunder. As growth continued, additions were successively made by land-owners, on all sides. Of these were additions to the north and west by Ivester; Allread & Houck, on the south, and by Falkner, on the northeast. On June 20, 1851, the first store in the place was begun, by Messrs. Samuel and John Smith, and in the year following, the railroad came through from Dayton. The building of this road, which extended diagonally across the township, from north to south, marked an epoch in the history of township and village. It put an end to the necessity of the previous long, tedious and expensive journey, through swamps and over corduroy roads, to Dayton, with produce. It brought a good market to the township, and, to the extreme surprise of many, "increased the price of horses." The M. E. Church was built in 1856, and the people came here instead of to the old log church on Painter's Creek. The United Brethren was put up in 1872 or 1873, and they were no longer dependent upon the old schoolhouse, and the Reformed Church perfected an organization in 1879.

On June 20, 1851, the Messrs. Smith, as stated, engaged here in merchandise and trade, and to their energy Arcanum, now a village of 1,000 people, largely owes its present prosperity. It contains four dry-goods houses, seven groceries, two drug-stores, two hardware, four harness, three carriage, four blacksmiths, three meat, three shoe, two milliner, three dress making and two barber shops. There are two livery stables, a hotel, a printing office, two bakerys, four grain warehouses, one lumber yard, two flouring-mills, a saw-mill, a planing-mill and a sash and door factory. A synopsis this of the interests of a live, thriving place. Among professional men, there are four physicians and one dentist. A schoolhouse has eight rooms and four teachers employed therein. Taken in business, religious, educational or other views of the village, it is seen to be aspiring and enterprising, manifesting a spirit valuable to the community and securing prosperity to themselves.





The presence of such places in a township serve as a stimulus to trade and agriculture, enhancing real estate values and inciting to cultivation.

### BUTLER TOWNSHIP.

The most current statement with regard to the name chosen for this township is that it was in honor of Maj. Butler, who fell in the battle known to history as St. Clair's defeat; but this is probably true in an indirect way only. The township was principally settled, to begin with, by pioneers from the neighboring county—Butler—and direct reference was had to the old home county rather than to the hero, in the choice of the name which the new township should bear. Butler County, however, was named undoubtedly in honor of the hero above mentioned.

The history of Butler Township will be somewhat meager, owing to the unusual difficulty of collecting data concerning it; but enough has been gleaned from various authentic sources to form an interesting and instructive sketch.

It is somewhat remarkable that the most diligent search of the records in the county offices gives no information concerning the date, etc., of the organization of this township, and conversations with the oldest residents now living afford no definite clew to the mystery. The general impression among those who are now most likely to have opinions on the subject that approximate accuracy is that it took place in 1819-20. Dr. J. P. Love, now in his seventy-fifth year, and a resident at New Castine since 1833, says that about twenty years after the first settlement of what became Butler Township, the anomaly existed of four school districts that had never been legally or formally constituted, and of several road districts that had not been authoritatively defined! In 1834, for the first time, these districts were legally bounded and laid out.

Butler Township is situated in the southwestern part of the county, being in the southern tier, and the second from the Indiana line, Harrison intervening. It is six miles square. The general surface is level, but is somewhat broken in the northwestern portion and in the vicinity of New Madison. There was a small tract in the central part, known as Maple swamp, the value of which was depreciated on account of being subject to frequent inundations, but a drain was put through it by order of the County Commissioners, thereby draining this locality and rendering the "swamp" the richest and best of farming land, from the deep alluvium of the surface soil. Originally, the township was heavily timbered with such woods as no weak land can produce, and the fair proportion of timber that is still left standing is stalwart and symmetrical. It has been claimed that since the reclamation of Maple swamp there is less untillable soil in Butler than in any other township of Darke County. This is saying much, probably too much, but the fact remains that its fertility attracted within its limits at an early day men of ability and energy, who have brought it to a high state of cultivation and of public and private improvement. Eleven years ago, it had thirty miles of turnpike (or almost a mile to every square mile of its area) under contract, at a cost of \$60,000—ample evidence of the truth of the above statement. The land was originally entered in eighty and one hundred and sixty acre parcels, principally, but more of the latter than of the former. In some instances, quarter-sections have been divided, but in more cases two eighties have been thrown together. Among the large farms of to-day are Joshua Fowble's, 250 acres and upward, one and a half miles northeast of New Castine; Jacob Wolverton's, about 175 acres, just north of Castine, and Esquire Voris', just south.

The Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railway runs through the northwestern corner of the township. Twin Creek rises near the northern boundary of Butler, runs almost south into Section 22, thence southeasterly to New Castine, and by a circuitous but still southeasterly course leaves the township a short distance west of the center of Section 36. Between Section 22 and the south line of Butler,





sends off several branches to the right and left, at an average distance of three-fourths of a mile apart. Mud Creek also enters near the center of the township and extends southeast into Section 8. The Middle Branch of Mud Creek enters the township one-fourth of a mile east of the railroad, in the eastern part of Section 5, near the center of which it crosses the railroad and then runs nearly parallel therewith until it leaves the township, at the northwestern corner of Section 18. The first turnpike was built in 1869, a north and south road, running from Greenville to Eaton, through New Castine, called the Greenville & Eaton Pike. The east and west road, crossing the other at right angles at Castine, is popularly known as the "New Garden Road." The name arose from the circumstance of semi-annual meetings held by the Quakers of New Garden, Ind., and the regular pilgrimage thereto of large numbers of Quakers from Union Township, Miami County, this State, over this road.

Job Camp, who came in 1814, is reputed to be the earliest settler in Butler. Francis Harter and his sons, also James Mills, came in 1817 or 1818; Jacob Weingardner in 1819. Abram P. Freeman came only a little later. Charles Harriman came to Butler in 1821 and settled where New Castine now stands. Jonathan Pitman, Joseph Danner and John Ellis also came at a very early date. Ellis was from Kentucky. Job Camp was from Hamilton County, but was raised in New Jersey. Jacob F. Miller was Justice of the Peace as early as 1816. Mark Mills represented the county in 1832 or 1833, and was probably also a Justice of the Peace.

David Harter, one of the oldest settlers, lived in the northwestern part of the township. Esquire Peter Fleck, for a long time a Trustee, lived close to the north line, toward the east. Esquire Baker, somewhat noted as a Democratic politician, lived east of Castine. He was elected to the State Legislature and settled in Greenville in the practice of the law. Politically, Butler Township is largely Democratic—so much so as to have been termed the "South Carolina of Darke County." Religiously, most of the people are either church members or in sympathy with the church. There are five church structures in the township, at which services are held at stated times, and six resident local preachers—men capable and earnest in their calling.

The first schoolhouse was built in 1824, on Section 35, near the present site of New Castine. A second schoolhouse, a log cabin, was located up the road toward the creek. A man by the name of Bentley now lives on the ground occupied by the old schoolhouse, in the southeast corner of the town. The third schoolhouse in this neighborhood was a frame building, located about half a mile east of Castine. The fourth was a brick structure, put up on the same ground. The last and present schoolhouse is a frame, two stories, also on the same ground. One teacher is employed in the summer and two in the winter. There are nine school districts in Butler Township; the houses are mostly of wood. Samuel Satterley was the first teacher in Butler. James L. Hunt and P. V. Banta (the latter now of Greenville) were teachers about 1833. The first meetings were held in private houses, and afterward in schoolhouses. The first church was built at New Castine in 1849, by the United Brethren; Otterbein Chapel, located in the northwestern part of the township, was built about the same time. In 1830, a blacksmith-shop was built by Joseph Danner, on the west side of the southeast quarter of Section 26; his land patent, for eighty acres, bears date the same year. In 1833, Dr. J. P. Love bought him out. From 1833 to 1837, coopering was the most conspicuous mechanical business in the township, but there were also blacksmith-shops, while shoemaking had begun to be quite a business outside of household manufacture; pottery was carried on at Castine and elsewhere, and there was also a hatter's establishment in the place. From that time until 1842, we are credibly informed by an old resident, the little village did more business than ever before since. These and the still earlier days of which we have spoken formed the log-cabin period. The old-fashioned spinning-wheel was in every home, the flax





brake on every farm, and in every third or fourth house the loom did faithful service. Candle-molds went the rounds, and woe to the unlucky borrower who caused a dent therein. Splint-bottom chairs served the twofold purpose of seats and, when turned over, of racks, for the suspension of tallow dips in the formative stage. The distinction between base-burning parlor and cooking stoves had never entered the heads of the foremost families; indeed, the only arrangement for both heating and culinary purposes was the old-time, wide-mouthed, friendly fireplace, save and except an occasional plain box-stove, made of unadorned plates of iron—and these were scarcer in the community then than pianos are now. Even as late as 1833 the township was a wilderness. Hardships had to be overcome, of course, and difficulties surmounted, but it should not be supposed that there were no compensating advantages. The pioneers not only lived, but lived *well*. Game, fish, wild fruits, berries, etc., were abundant and cheap. Clothing, though not stylish, was neat and comfortable, and cost little more than the labor necessary to make it. The habits of the people were simple, and their expenses light. *Per contra*, nearly all modern conveniences were wanting, and modern luxuries unthought of. The usual place for milling was at Frazier's stone mill, six miles down Twin Creek, in Preble County. The market was at Dayton and Cincinnati—thirty-two and sixty-two miles distant. Now the distance is two miles to the nearest shipping point, viz., Manchester, on the Dayton & Western Railroad. In 1830, the population of the township was 512; in 1870, 1,524.

#### NEW CASTINE.

This is a village of 200 inhabitants, a little over twelve miles south from Greenville and six and a half miles southeast from New Madison. It is located on Sections 35 and 26, at the center of the east and west line between them, and one and a half miles within the eastern boundary of Butler Township. New Castine was laid out in 1832, on land that belonged to John Ellis, Joseph Danner and Frederick Smith. Dr. J. P. Love, who came in 1833, bought out Danner's and part of Smith's, and a man from Pennsylvania, Samuel Brosserman, bought the rest of Smith's interest. The original proprietors had, without legal notice or due course of law, got a surveyor to lay off lots and had commenced selling the same, when Mr. Love, who was somewhat posted in legal matters, informed them that they had no right so to do, and that for every lot they had sold they were liable to a fine of \$50. A plat was immediately made, and the necessary steps taken to prevent prosecutions. Castine was incorporated in 1842-43, but the charter was allowed to expire through default of the citizens, and the place has now no corporate existence. Dr. J. P. Love occupied the first house built in Castine—on the northeast corner of Main and Main Cross streets. At the same time, another log cabin was put up by William Boswell, but not finished until afterward. Soon after, another was erected by George Hickman. The present "Eagle Hotel" was built by John L. Robinson, located at the southwest corner of the two principal streets. Russell Evans, now deceased, ran a hotel on the east side of Main street, the third lot from the corner. He began in the hotel business in 1843. He had been keeping a "grocery" here and there in rented quarters. His hotel was burned down in the fall of 1879. "The Eagle" was the first and only hotel built as such. It has changed hands many times. James Hanway was for a long time a resident of New Castine, but moved to Kansas in 1857. R. M. Pomeroy, now President of the Pacific Railway, sold goods here two years from 1833 to 1840. Pomeroy kept store at New Paris, then at Castine, then at Spartansburg, Ind., then at Cincinnati, and finally went to Boston, Mass. Dr. Love sold the first goods in New Castine and continued in the trade until 1838; he began again in 1842 and continued until 1851; for six years, he dealt in pork and hauled the cured meat to Cincinnati in wagons. He has only practiced medicine at intervals and upon urgent solicitation of his patrons. The following physicians have practiced in the village and township since 1833, viz.,





Drs. Birt, Cooper, David Marsh, Stevens, Palmer, John L. Matchett, T. R. Luff, Isaac Thomas, Humphrey and Frank Matchett, the two latter being the present resident physicians.

The United Brethren Church was built in 1849, as before stated. Among the leading promoters of the enterprise were George Byers, Samuel Coblentz and Henry Wehrly. The Dunkard Church was built about eight years ago. Wendell Minnich, a preacher of that denomination, was the first man who worked up an interest in the matter. At first, the meetings were held in a house that was built for a potter's house, located on Lot No. 12. Minnich died some twenty years ago, after which his brother-in-law, George Syler, was preacher till the new house was erected eight years since. The Dunkards bought their lot of Frederick Trump. Among the early preachers in this vicinity was a Presbyterian named Cracken. William McCale preached in George Byers' barn in 1833. The United Brethren held meetings there, and also at Samuel Coblentz. For an account of the schools, see Township History.

### HARRISON TOWNSHIP.

Harrison is one of the very best townships in the county and is peopled by able and thrifty farmers, who are purchasing many of the small lots of land heretofore occupied as farms and attaching them to their first possessions. This shows fewer farms than in 1860. In other townships there are greater portions of the land unoccupied, and as it settles, population increases.

The township was erected May, 1818, from territory taken from the west end of Twin Township, and contained all of that township west of a line commencing at the southeast corner of Section 31, Town 10 north, Range 2 east, and running thence north to the township line. It was reduced to its present size in 1820. Numerous streams have their source within its boundary, the principal of which are East Branch of Greenville Creek, branches of Mud Creek flowing northward and eastward, and the East Fork of Whitewater, which rises in the northeastern part and flows southeasterly through its lands. The Middle Fork of Whitewater flows across the northwest corner, while many springs gushing out from the hillsides contribute their waters, which by their natural channels supply abundance of water and an excellent natural drainage. Save in the northwest, the valleys of these streams and much of their basins were swampy and well-nigh impassable. In some places, there were tall rank grasses and swamp weeds; in others, timber and thickets of vinous brush—briery and woven as a network of nature's weaving, while on higher ground bordering these were walnut, hackberry, sugar maple and oaks: in the southeastern part, beech predominated. The native scenery presents an appearance of a western forest repelling the settler from interference with its domain. Such were the general features of this region before the pioneer had chosen his home, or any surveyor had ventured to trace the boundaries of town or range. All was wood and swamp. Nature reigned in unbroken solitude save the song of birds, the graceful flight of deer, the nightly howl of wolves and the occasional unearthly screech of the American panther. Abundance of game, the rolling lands, the springs and streams were marked by explorers.

Ishmael Bunch, one of the earliest settlers of Wayne Co., Ind., if generally accepted tradition may be accepted, built a log cabin and lived some time previous to the Indian outbreak on land now included in Harrison Township, but he was rather a roaming frontiersman than a pioneer settler, and depended more upon his rifle than upon his plow for subsistence.

Before the war of 1812, the Brawleys, Purviances and McClures, had made entries in the southern part along the present beautiful East Fork Valley, but the hostile attitude of the Indians compelled them to seek more secure quarters for their families. Some went to the fort at Greenville and some to the older settlements south. Again the lands were left to solitude and the rude attempts at settlement, but served to make the wilderness more wild and strange. Soon after





the treaty at Greenville, the families above mentioned returned and repaired the work begun, and entered anew upon the clearing-up of lands for future farms. They were shortly after joined by William and John Wade, who located farther north and near to Fort Black, and by Zadoc and John Smith, whose entry included the old fort, while James Emerson, Joseph Gist, the Tillsons and the Harlands, selected lands lying along the Middle Branch of Whitewater. The ring of the woodman's ax, and the triumphant shout of the pioneers as the last log was placed by the "corner men" upon each new cabin, proclaimed the progress of civilization here.

So rapid was settlement that by 1817, Zadoc Smith was encouraged to attempt the speculative movement of laying out a town at Fort Black. This old fort was established during the fall of 1813 by Lieut. Black, of a company commanded by Capt. Nesbitt, who at the same time built a fort in Preble County. David Baldwin, now of Kansas, aided to build the fort, and was for some time one of its garrison. Mr. Smith platted a tract of land near the fort, which was for many years and till its incorporation called by the name of Fort Black. On Christmas Day, 1817, a public sale of town lots was held, but the sequel proved that he had anticipated the needs of the times. Henry Hutton and Frederick Fulke were the only purchasers who built upon lots then sold; nevertheless, there were besides the families of these two men, Dennis Hart, Judson Jaqua and the Lawrences, in the neighborhood which became known as Yankee Town; Solomon and Jonathan Thomas, southwest of Madison; John and Aaron Rush, on Section 11 (?) and 14; Thomas Micham, on Section 16; John Downing, on Section 10; Frances Spencer, on Section 3; Samuel Roberts, at Fort Nesbitt, and his brother George, on Section 29, and John and Jacob Miller, Daniel Owens, David, James P. and Daniel Edwards and John Watson were in the central part and north of Fort Nesbitt. There was also John Tibbs, who gave his time to hunting, and David Gibbs and Newland, millwrights, and Robert Campbell, in the southwest portion. The openings had grown numerous, clearings were no longer far between, and now the township was constituted and the people entered upon a government for themselves. Among additional settlers were Ernestus Putnam, Solomon Broderick, James Wooden (who were the first Justices of the Peace in the township), M. Buckingham, Nazareth Bunch, John Carrier, William Jones, Daniel Forkner, Jonathan Thomas, the Motes brothers, John Foster, E. Lovall and Thomas Gray. The lands of 1830 had all been entered, and some localities presented an appearance of a continued occupation. It must be borne in mind that these settlers came not as emigrants to Kansas and other Western countries, upon the railroad. Neither had they cash in hand, nor an abundant outfit. The greater number were sons and daughters of the pioneer families of Kentucky, older portions of Ohio and the enterprising of Eastern and Southern States. Putnam and Foulke came from Washington, D. C. Here having married, they sought permanent homes, and being poor, their outfit was indeed meager. In some cases, a horse, a cow, a few swine, and some rude tools for felling trees and cultivating the ground. Those who came from Kentucky, especially, had a horse and a few cooking utensils. They journeyed, some on foot, while others more fortunate had teams. Generally two or three families came together, and had a wagon and team in common. Such was the case with McClure and his sons, the Wade brothers, the Smiths, Tillson and sons and the Harlands. In their course, they traveled over the new roads of the older settlements, as most not from the older portions of Ohio came in by way of Cincinnati up the Miami from Dayton and the Stillwater, or up the Whitewater via Richmond to or near the present Miami County line. They then struck through the woods, sometimes being compelled to cut their own way until they reached the spot which husband or friend had previously selected. The family sometimes entered a cabin provided months before by these pioneers, while other times the immigrant sought temporary shelter in the cabin of a neighbor, while yet others made rude shelter until a cabin could be built.



It is surprising to us, and creditable to the discernment of these pioneers, that in the rough of nature they should have seen the wealth of their lands and so wisely selected them. To cut away the trees and brush, and to erect a cabin, was to these woodmen their easiest labor, as all within reasonable distance were ever ready to leave their own work to aid a neighboring old or new settler, whether friend or stranger; but how to provide for their families until the ground could be made to yield its increase was a subject uppermost in mind, and injury by weather or animals was dreaded, for they had no money to purchase supplies if their own resources failed them. Frequently, the family was left while the father or husband went upon long and wearisome journeys to the older settlements upon the Miami or the Whitewater Valleys, and, at times, to Kentucky, where supplies could be obtained from friends or acquaintances. Unavoidable and unexpected delays in their return, which sometimes occurred, would occasion alarm, and, not infrequently, the privations of hunger were endured. Had not the first settlers possessed natural ingenuity, developed by a frontier life, their progress, situated as they were, so distant from any mercantile or manufacturing center, would have been rendered almost impossible. The "openings" with growing crops, the rattle of the bells upon the cows in the deadening or in the woods, the voices of children and the neighborly visits of settlers, presented scenes pleasant and prophetic.

When a crop had been raised, it was almost worth the meal or flour to get it ground. Daniel Riegel relates that, as late as the winter of 1842-43, he went to Covington from Butler Township with a grist, found several others ahead of him and the mill frozen up; left his grain and returned home till the weather softened, then went back and helped to loosen the wheel, at the first revolution of which, the weight of ice that went over broke the wheel; after which, he was compelled to take his grist to a mill on the Whitewater, below Paris, traveling, in all, going and coming, over ninety miles to get his flour. Some went down on the Whitewater, some to Stillwater, while others journeyed to Adams' mill, on Greenville Creek. These trips were prominent undertakings. They were made, mainly, on horseback, and, when the water was low, settlers traveled thirty or forty miles to mill, and some of the first settlers even went to Dayton in order to get wheat flour. A produce market was unknown; provisions were raised and pork was fattened to eat. Clothing was not bought, but made. Ernestus Putnam, who had kept a little store at his house at Fort Black and was Supervisor, built, mainly at his own expense, a log road and bridge across the East Fork swamp. Aaron Rush was the chief contractor, and the money thus obtained probably saved his being compelled to relinquish his "claim." The Miami Canal was completed to Dayton in 1829, thus placing Darke County many miles nearer the commercial world, and causing the settlers to look forward more hopefully.

The settlers earlier named were of the better class of pioneers. Nearly every one remained upon and improved his lands. Few of them now survive. Mr. Samuel Roberts and George Roberts, who still reside where they first settled in 1817, are of the number. From Mrs. Roberts, now in her eighty-fourth year, is obtained the full, accurate statement of early settlers. Solomon Thomas and Henry Hutton [Henry Hutton died since this narrative was written—the last of April, 1880], who are now upward of ninety years of age, are residents of New Paris. There is a Mrs. Keener, residing in German Township, who was the wife of a son of Frances Harter and Solomon Harter, who was a lad when his father settled on that tier of sections which at first belonged to Harrison, and in 1820 was assigned to Butler. Such is the short roll-call of surviving pioneers.

Moral principles and intelligence have ever been known as essential factors to the stability and growth of our country, and these were characteristics of the pioneers of Harrison.

Such was John Purviance, a descendant of David Purviance, who was prominent in the organization of the first Christian Church in Kentucky. At his home, meetings and schools were occasionally held, as, also, at the house of Samuel





McClure, who was both preacher and teacher, conscientious and philanthropic—a good man. John Forster, Isaac Mains and William Polly were all early preachers of the Christian denomination. The efforts of such families as the Tillsons, Harlands and Pollys and of Solomon Broderick, produced a wholesome moral and religious sentiment in the southern and western part of the township. At Fort Black, lived Ernestus Putnam, a strict Presbyterian, and there were John Rush, John Downing, Judson Jaqua, Hart, and others, who were men of good character and public spirited. Jacob Miller was of marked intelligence, but his moral influence was not of the best. The first house built for public worship was a log meeting-house, near where Friendship Church now stands. There are now eight churches in the township, viz.: one Presbyterian, one Methodist and one Universalist, at New Madison; one Christian at Hollansburg, and one each of Christian, Presbyterian, New Light and United Brethren elsewhere in the township. It was also used as a schoolhouse, wherein John Purviance taught the first school, supported by subscription. The first schoolhouse, intended as such, was built at Yankeetown, in 1819, and Moses Woods was the first teacher there. The second was built upon Section 16, and William Hill was the first to teach in it. The township now has six district schools, besides the school at Hollandsburg, which includes two districts, and the school at Madison, of which mention is later made.

A brief sketch of New Madison will be read with interest in this connection. We have referred to the Christmas auction of lots and the few sales made. It seems that the attempted sale was made an occasion of a regular pioneer jollification, but its failure was disheartening to Smith, who, in 1819, sold his entire claim to Ernestus Putnam, who had entered the quarter-section just west of Smith. The purchaser bought up all lots sold, vacated the plat, and, in 1831, surveyed New Madison by laying off seventeen lots on each side of what is now Main street, beginning with the lot where the old tannery stands and running south on the east side of the street and back on the west side. Mr. Putnam kept the first store in the place, to which he transferred his stock from Fort Black. A Mr. Hyde was the first blacksmith. At the southeast corner of the new plat, a rectangular-shaped piece of land remained, upon which Putnam placed a log house and donated both lot and house to the people for school purposes. This was the first schoolhouse within the limits of the present corporation. He and John Wade also gave a piece of ground for a cemetery, provided public ground for a militia parade, and, when a church was needed, he gave the ground, and he and others built the present brick church and gave it for the use of the public, with the restriction that it should be used by orthodox denominations only. Before the church was built, Mr. Putnam, who was the prime mover in the undertaking, made several propositions toward securing co-operation. Several gave sums ranging from \$50 downward. The Foulkes and Hollingsheads gave \$50; Mrs. Wilson (now the only survivor) gave \$50; Mrs. Carson, \$50; Dr. Kilpatrick, \$50, and the Lawrences, the Schribers, the Rittenours, etc., varying smaller amounts. The church was erected in 1847. Mr. Putnam superintended the work; Jason Downing was one of the brickmasons; William Biddle did a large part of the woodwork. It was not until several years after the church was built that funds were subscribed to purchase a bell, and the bell was not put up until after the German Reformed Church had possession of the building, which occurred in the latter part of 1857. After the church was built, there was for some time no regular preaching by Presbyterian ministers, but frequent services by preachers of that and other orthodox denominations. Rev. Benj. O. Springer came here about two years after the church was built, and he was succeeded by Peter Crocker, who preached frequently, but did not occupy all the time, until 1855-56. In 1857, Rev. Voght, of the German Reformed Church, awakened a great interest here and organized a church, at which time Mr. Putnam joined the new organization and the Presbyterian Church was turned over to its use, he himself appointing the following Trustees, viz., Elias Harter, Robert Snodgrass and Echard Worch. Mr. Snodgrass died, and





Daniel Ream was appointed his successor. For over twenty-one years, the German Reformed Church held and occupied the property under quitclaim limitations, but now have the ownership in fee simple. At present, there are services every two weeks by the German Reformed and United Brethren denominations, alternately. A union Sabbath school is held at 9:30 o'clock A. M. every Sunday. Average attendance, seventy-five. Among the Superintendents have been Wallace Jones, L. Adair, J. M. Adair, John O. Harter, James Armacost, E. Lockett, H. Seig, David Wheeler, Elias Harter. D. Lott is the present Superintendent. The church and Sunday school are provided with an organ.

The new village was slow of growth. While Putnam did work at gunsmithing, Mrs. Putnam, who is reputed to have been the real business manager, attended to the business of the little store. As time went on, Putnam started a small pork house, and bought and packed pork, which was regarded by the neighbors as a doubtful enterprise. Rouk, who came in 1818, was a sort of saddler, and developed a small shop. A mill was begun by John G. Putnam in 1850, and finished by Dr. Kilpatrick. It was burned in 1852, and rebuilt by P. V. Moore and Daniel Schults in 1856. The Universalists organized a church on April 3, 1859, with thirty-one members, Henry Gifford being Pastor. During the summer of 1859, subscriptions were received, and a church building was erected and dedicated in January, 1860. Christians, Universalists and Presbyterians have churches in the township. The latter, about 1821, at a meeting in which John Wooden, Thomas Carson and Jacob Miller were Trustees, the name Providence was given to their church. A lodge of F. & A. M., known as Fort Black Lodge, No. 413, was chartered October 21, 1868, with sixteen charter members. The first Master was L. S. B. Otwell. Present membership, fifty-three.

New Madison has a fine town hall, a brick structure, built in 1878, 70x40 feet, three stories, including basement. The middle story is used as a public assembly, lecture, concert, etc., room, also for festivals and dances. The basement, on the latter occasions, serves as culinary department, and a part of it is in general use for storage, etc. The upper story is the Odd Fellows' Hall. George Bacon was Chairman of the Committee on Construction and contractor. The building cost about \$7,000. The lot was bought of Mrs. Matthew McWhinney for \$600, and then sold for the same price, enough ground being retained for the erection of the town hall.

Few villages of the size and population of New Madison (population 562 according to census of 1880) have so commodious and complete a school building. It is located on the southeast side of Main street, on a lot seven-eighths of an acre in extent. The lot was bought of J. B. Schriber for \$200. He purchased it at Sheriff's sale, subject to a dower of \$66. The building is 50x50 feet, two stories, four rooms, and was put up by William Lindsay, lowest bidder, for \$6,500. The seating, outhouses, fences and other improvements have made the total cost a little above \$7,500. The building was put up in 1870. The first Superintendent was Mr. Thomas Eubanks. The following were his successors, viz., Edwin Lockett, Mr. Christler, Mr. Reed and Mr. Christner. Thomas Eubanks is now again in charge of the school. Miss Rebecca Riddle has taught nearly every term since the erection of the new structure, and Miss Ella Rush has also taught several terms. The lot above spoken of adjoined "the old-school lot" mentioned in the foregoing sketch and history of New Madison, and the present school grounds of course includes both. The first (log) schoolhouse, which was also used for religious and other meetings, is still standing, and is now used as a stable. It was erected when the town was laid out. The second schoolhouse (of brick) is located on the same side but at the other end of Main street, near the old brewery, and is also still standing. It was built in 1850.

A new brick grain warehouse has just been completed, near the depot, 40x75 feet, two stories. The shipments of grain and stock from New Madison have averaged, of late years, 40,000 bushels of wheat, 60,000 bushels of corn, and



3,000 head of live stock and hogs per annum. These are the aggregate figures representing the business hitherto done by Swisher & Templeton, and more recently by Swisher, now the only grain and produce shipper. The new warehouse was put up by Mr. Edward Bunch, and will doubtless be used for the purpose intended the ensuing fall and winter.

The *Methodist Episcopal Church* was built in the summer of 1878, and is a frame structure 36x50 feet; cost about \$1,100. It is located nearly opposite the Presbyterian Church, on the south side of Washington street. The lot contains one-fourth of an acre less fifty feet, and was purchased from Obadiah Hill for the sum of \$100. Regular preaching by Rev. Allbright and Rev. Kerm. Average Sabbath-school attendance, forty.

The *Universalist Church*, more particularly referred to elsewhere, is about 40x50 feet, located on the north side of Washington street, at the southeast end thereof. The lot upon which it is situated was purchased of John B. Schriber for \$75, in June, 1859, and contains  $\frac{8.5}{100}$  acres. There has been no regular preaching for over two years past, but the Universalist Sabbath School is in regular session.

There are two steam saw-mills and a stream grist-mill in New Madison, all doing a good business; one of the former has attached to it a flouring department, also a planing, flouring and bracket-manufacturing branch, and nearly every branch of mercantile and professional pursuit is represented. The village enjoys all the advantages of a railroad town, and is surrounded by a country that can hardly be surpassed and is very seldom equaled as to beauty and productiveness.

Among the older institutions and landmarks of New Madison, the New Madison Brewery, John Lantry, proprietor, must not be omitted. This ancient, yet not very old, establishment is located at the corner of Main and Franklin streets, and was commenced in 1858. Successive additions have been made until it is now 144 feet in length by 18 feet in width, about 50 feet of the front being considerably wider. It has never changed owners, but part of the time has been run by other (hired) parties than the proprietor. Since 1875, the brewery has been idle. Mr. Lantry is disabled so that he seldom leaves the premises, but is known by those who visit and converse with him to be a quaint but good-hearted specimen of the "rale ould stock," half-hermit, it is true, and afflicted, but more genial and less cynical than a casual observer might suppose.

The tannery is another representative of ye olden time. It was built by Robert Snodgrass and Thomas and Henderson Fleming, in an early day. The original building was 60x20 feet, but, in 1844, an addition was made of 15x20 feet. The business passed from the above firm into the hands of Joseph Snodgrass (son of Robert), who ran it until his death three years ago, when his widow rented it to Mr. Lewis Stolder, who continued to run it up to March, 1880, since which time it has been idle.

#### HOLLANDSBURG

is located near the center of Section 5, in the northwestern part of the township, about half a mile east of the Middle Fork of the Whitewater River, and distant from New Madison five and eight-tenths miles. It was laid out in 1817. Present population about three hundred. The different businesses, religious and educational interests, etc., are well represented. The adjoining country is fertile, and while the progress of the village has not been rapid, its growth in many substantial respects has been far greater than mere external evidences would indicate. The new Methodist Episcopal Church is a conveniently located and commodious structure, as well as the Christian Church, elsewhere mentioned in these pages. There are many pleasant residences, and some that may be said to be of the best class of dwellings in the county. Intelligence and thrift characterize the people generally.





# BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

## GREENVILLE TOWNSHIP.

**WILLIAM ALLEN**, lawyer, jurist and statesman: was born in Butler Co., Ohio, Aug. 13, 1827. His father, John Allen, was born in Ireland, and emigrated to America in 1812; after residing six years in the State of New York, he moved to Butler Co., Ohio, in 1818; he moved his family into the woods of Darke Co. in 1838, his dwelling being a log cabin with puncheon floors and a mud and stick chimney; in the latter part of his life, he was a preacher in the United Brethren Church. Our subject was favored with no educational advantages, except those afforded by the common schools of the day, yet by making most of these, he was able to teach at the age of 15, and for several years followed that vocation; at the age of 19, he commenced the study of law, under the late Felix Marsh, of Eaton, Ohio; was admitted to the bar in 1849, and in the following year commenced practice in Greenville; in 1850, he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Darke Co., and re-elected in 1852; in the fall of 1858, he was elected to Congress from the Fourth District, comprising the counties of Darke, Shelby, Mercer, Auglaize and Allen, and re-elected in 1860, thus serving in the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh Congress; in the winter of 1865, he was appointed by Gov. Cox as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of the first subdivision of the Second Judicial District of Ohio, composed of the counties of Butler, Darke and Preble, to fill a vacancy made by the resignation of Judge D. L. Meeker; in 1878, Judge Allen was nominated for Congress by the Republicans of the Fifth District, but he declined. In 1851, he married Miss Priscilla Wallace, whose father settled in Darke Co. in 1834: the issue of this marriage was four sons and four daughters, of whom only one son survives; four of his children died of diphtheria under the most afflictive circumstances, in the space of as many weeks; this was in the winter of 1861, when he was summoned from Washington City to his despoiled home; Mr. Allen, although he has risen from poverty to affluence by his own unaided exertions, is one of the most charitable of our citizens, and his integrity has never been questioned; his positive character, while it wins friends true as steel, also makes bitter enemies, but even his enemies concede to him great ability and unflinching honesty of purpose; he is at present, Vice President of the Greenville Bank, and President of the Greenville Gas Company.

**MATTHEW T. ALLEN**, lawyer, Greenville: was born in Butler Township, Darke Co., Ohio, Sept. 17, 1848; he lived on his father's farm, and enjoyed the usual educational privileges of farmers' sons of that period (his father and mother are noticed in the sketch of his brother, Hon. William Allen); in the fall of 1864, he entered Otterbein University, at Westerville, Ohio; after a partial course at that institution, he removed to Winchester, Ind., where he was employed as clerk in a shoe store one year; he next taught school one year; in 1867, he commenced the study of law with D. M. Bradbury, of Winchester; after admission to practice, he was appointed Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of Indiana, comprising the counties of Wayne, Randolph, Jay and Blackford;





in the summer of 1872, he came to Greenville, and continued practice as junior member of the firm of Allen, Devor & Allen. In 1878, the firm dissolved, and, subsequently, young Allen formed a partnership with Hon. John Devor, under the style of Allen & Devor. In 1878, Allen was the Republican candidate for Prosecuting Attorney, and, such was his popularity, that he was fairly elected in a county giving 1,200 majority against his party, but was counted out by reason of mistakes in writing his initials on scratched tickets. Mr. Allen has already won an enviable distinction as a counselor and advocate, and his genial social qualities render him immensely popular with all classes. His marriage with Mary V. Whiteside, was celebrated upon the 23d of April, 1879. She was born in Camden, Preble Co., March 17, 1860.

**HENRY ALTER**, farmer and stock-raiser. Sec. 12; P. O. Greenville; was born in Washington Co., Md., March 18, 1833; he was a son of Jacob Alter, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1799; emigrated to Maryland, and in 1866 came to Darke County; and after residing in Greenville one year, made his home with his son until his decease, which occurred in May, 1875. He was married, in 1819, in Maryland, to Eliza Tice; she was born in Washington Co. in 1806, and is now in her 73d year, and makes her home with her son. Henry Alter went to Clark Co., Ohio, in 1858, and followed farming there until 1866, when he came to Darke Co. and located upon his present place. His marriage with Elizabeth Ilges was celebrated in 1864; she died in 1870; one child was born to them—Mary L., born Aug., 18, 1866; his marriage with Mary Clew was celebrated Dec. 17, 1874; she was born and raised in Darke Co., and is a daughter of D. B. Clew, one of the early pioneers of Darke Co.

**JOSEPH AMANN, JR.**, deceased. The subject of this memoir was born in Dayton, Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1840, and was a son of Joseph and Francis Amann; in early life he learned the blacksmith trade; in 1853, he came to Darke Co. and followed farming and blacksmithing until the breaking-out of the rebellion, when he enlisted and served four years in the Union army; after being mustered out of service he returned to Greenville, and in 1867 was married to Barbara Caron; six children were the fruits of this union, viz., Nora, Louisa, Joseph, Katie, William and Barbara. He engaged in business in Greenville soon after his return from the army, and in October, 1873, he purchased his brick buildings on Third street, and followed the restaurant and saloon business until his decease, which occurred in October, 1879. The business has since been conducted by his widow.

**JOHN ATEN**, farmer; P. O. Jaysville. The subject of this memoir was born in Twin Township, Preble Co., Ohio, April 1, 1823, and is a son of Adrian Aten, who was a native of Kentucky but came to Preble Co. in 1822. John Aten was raised to agricultural pursuits upon the home farm, and, upon the 6th of April, 1854, was united in marriage with Lavina Russell, who died Sept. 19, 1875; nine children were the fruits of this union, viz.: Abraham R., born June 30, 1855; Adrian, April 29, 1856; John H., Oct. 3, 1857; James F., Jan. 25, 1859; Theodore C., Oct. 20, 1860 (died Aug. 8, 1863); Emma, July 11, 1862 (died June 29, 1863); William, Jan. 6, 1864; Charles, Oct. 23, 1865, and George W., June 1, 1867; upon the marriage of Mr. Aten, he continued farming upon the old homestead three years, when he purchased a farm in Preble Co., and, in the fall of 1860, purchased property at Arcanum, Darke Co., residing here five years; he then purchased the saw-mill at Jaysville, selling the following year, and, in 1866, purchased his present property where he has since lived; he has 110 acres upon his home farm, a large part of which he has reclaimed from a swamp by means of a ditch and tiling until it is now as productive as any land in the county. He is one of the self-made men of Darke Co., and has by his hard labor and correct business habits placed himself among the large landholders and successful farmers of Darke Co. He was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in the King Hiram



College, at Alexandria, Sept. 25, 1850, and is now a member of the order of A. F. A. M. at Greenville.

J. B. AVERY, farmer, Sec. 3; P. O. Woodington; an old settler of Darke Co., born in New London Co., Conn., Aug. 27, 1826; at 17 years of age, he commenced farming and school teaching until 1847, when he came to Darke Co., and, in the following year, purchased his present place of 80 acres, where he has since lived for a period of thirty-one years; upon locating here, there were some 7 acres only partially cleared; no building, no fences; he first put up a small frame house in which he lived several years, and to which he has since attached a much larger residence; he has cleared some 55 acres of his place and brought the same to a good state of cultivation by his own hard labor. His marriage with Marcella Earhart occurred Nov. 14, 1848. She was born in Darke Co. Jan. 10, 1827, and has always lived within one mile of the place where she was born; she was a daughter of Samuel Earhart, one of the early pioneers, who was born in Warren Co., Ohio, in 1802, and came to Darke Co. in 1820, and located on Sec. 10, Greenville Township; he died January, 1854; he married Elizabeth Scribner; she was a daughter of Azor Scribner, who was the first permanent settler of this county; he established a trading post in Mina Town in 1806; Mrs. Earhart died March, 1873, at the age of 67 years. The children of J. B. and Marcella (Earhart) Avery were five in number—Prudence M., born Sept. 20, 1849; Franklin P., born Jan. 21, 1852 (died May, 1869); Emily M., born Oct. 8, 1858; Lizzie M., born July 28, 1862, and Ira J., born Feb. 28, 1869. Mr. Avery has been a member of the Presbyterian Church for upward of thirty years; his wife, for a period of thirty-eight years, and all the children, save the youngest, also being members of the same church.

ANDREW BAIRD, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Greenville: the subject of this memoir was born in Warren Co., Ohio, Oct. 26, 1844, and is a son of Tunis Baird, also a native of Warren Co., Ohio, his father coming from New Jersey, and are of Scotch descent. Andrew was raised in the above county, his early occupation being that of a farmer's son; he obtained the advantages of a common-school education; he remained with his father upon the farm till the spring of 1864, when he enlisted in the 146th O. N. G., and went forward to battle for the Union. He was forwarded to West Virginia, where he served the full term of his enlistment, and received his discharge at Camp Dennison, Ohio, in September, 1864. He then returned to Darke Co., and farmed one year upon the old home farm, and in the latter part of the year 1865, he went to Illinois, where, upon the 22d day of June, 1866, he was united in marriage with Miranda Collett. She was born and raised in Darke Co. In September, 1866, he returned to Darke Co., since which time he has followed farming with the exception of some eighteen months, during which time he was engaged in the coal and wood business in Greenville. The children of Andrew and Miranda (Collett) Baird are five in number, four daughters and one son, viz.: Lula, Ella M., Franklin T., Cora D. and Kittie.

JACOB BAKER, attorney at law, Greenville; born in Butler Township in 1840; practiced law in Greenville since 1864, where he has been connected with some of the most important legal proceedings had in the county; was defeated for the Legislature in 1865, and elected in 1867. He introduced and carried through several important pieces of legislation. He was a delegate from this Congressional District to the St. Louis Convention at which Mr. Tilden was nominated for President.

CHARLES BACHMAN, tailor and clothier, No. 88 Broadway, Greenville, Ohio. There are probably but few of the successful business men of Greenville, who have shown the energy, enterprise, and quick conception of the wants and demands of the public, as the subject of our sketch, who is among the popular clothiers of Greenville. He was born in Prussia June 1, 1836, and emigrated to America when 18 years of age; in 1861, he located in Eaton, and followed the occupation of merchant tailor, until 1867, at which date he came to Greenville,





where he has since followed the above business, with the exception of two years. As one of the patrons of the above gentleman, we can cheerfully recommend him as educated in his business, and to his honorable dealings, together with his large and carefully selected stock of seasonable goods and to his personal attention to the details of every branch of his business, may be attributed the secret of his success. A card of his business is to be found in the business directory of Greenville, in another part of this work. His marriage with Julia Marenthall was celebrated in 1861. She was also a native of Prussia. They are the parents of three children, viz., Jennie, Samuel and Maley.

DAVID BEANBLOSSOM (deceased) ; one of the early pioneers of Darke Co., was born in North Carolina, May 25, 1801 ; when 16 years of age, he came to Ohio and located in Darke Co., consequently he was one of its very early settlers. He was twice married ; his first wife was Susannah Rarick ; she died about the year 1834 ; eleven children were the fruit of this union, of whom one is now living—Joseph, now living in Greenville Township. His marriage with Mary Delk was celebrated Nov. 6, 1836 ; she was born in Darke Co., a few miles south of Greenville, Sept. 30, 1816 ; she was a daughter of Etheland Delk, who was born in North Carolina, and came to Darke Co. in a very early day. The children by the last marriage were fourteen in number, of whom two are deceased. The living are Ludena, born May 20, 1840 ; Enos, Jan. 6, 1842 ; Ann Eliza, born Oct. 25, 1843 ; Julia A., born Nov. 24, 1845 ; William, Jan. 6, 1848 ; Elizabeth S., born Oct. 22, 1849 ; Margaret M., born Feb. 9, 1852 ; David D., Jan. 14, 1854 ; John C., April 18, 1856 ; Rachel and Isabell (twins), and Henry A., born Jan. 13, 1859. Of the deceased, Nancy, born Aug. 28, 1838, died Feb. 26, 1854 ; the other died in infancy. Mr. Beanblossom died Dec. 8, 1861, upon the same place he located, in 1817, and where he lived forty-four years ; his old residence, which he built in 1820, is now occupied by his son Enos. Mr. Beanblossom suffered all the privations and hardships of frontier life. He commenced without capital, and split rails at 25 cents per hundred to obtain his wedding outfit. He, with the assistance of his wife, fought the battles of life nobly, and at the time of his death, had accumulated upward of 400 acres of land ; built his present residence in 1856. He took a deep interest in the cause of religion, and was a Deacon in the Christian Church and was a member of the same for forty years. He died respected and beloved by all who knew him.

ENOS BEANBLOSSOM, Sec. 1: P. O. Pikesville. Another of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born upon Sec. 1, Greenville Township, Jan. 6, 1842, where he has always lived, with the exception of three years that he served in the army : he is a son of David Beanblossom, who was born in North Carolina, and emigrated to Ohio, and located in Darke Co. in 1817 ; he entered Government land, upon which he lived until his death, which occurred Dec. 8, 1861, aged 63 years. The mother of Enos Beanblossom was Mary Delk, who was born in Ohio, and is now living in this county. Our subject was raised to agricultural pursuits, which he followed until July 10, 1862, when he enlisted in the 45th O. V. I. ; he served in the army of Gen. Sherman until the fall of 1864, when he was made prisoner in Tennessee and taken to Belle Island ; after remaining there three months, he was taken to Andersonville, where the cruel treatment received here was in keeping with its well-known acts of barbarism ; during his imprisonment his weight was reduced from 155 to 94 pounds ; he remained in prison some five months, and was released in the spring of 1865, and received his discharge during the summer, at Columbus ; thence returned home and engaged in farming, which business he has since followed. He now owns 100 acres of well-improved land. His marriage with Ann E. Sipple was celebrated March 31, 1872 ; she was born in Darke Co., Feb. 3, 1845 ; they have four children—Irene M., born May 17, 1873 ; Daisy V., born July 31, 1875 ; Ora E., born July 26, 1877, and an infant, born September 14, 1879. The residence in which Mr. Beanblossom now lives was erected by his father in 1820, and is now a good comfortable home.





**JOSEPH BEANBLOSSOM**, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Greenville; brother of the old settlers: born in Darke Co., Ohio, Feb. 7, 1826, he was the eldest son of David Beanblossom, one of the early pioneers, whose biography appears among the sketches of Greenville Township in this work. The subject of our sketch was raised to agricultural pursuits upon the farm of his father, until he attained his majority, when, upon the 22d of February, 1847, he was married to Rhoda Brandon: she was born March 12, 1823, and died Sept. 3, 1853, leaving three children—Thomas A., born Nov. 7, 1847; Mary A., born Oct. 19, 1849; David W., born Nov. 24, 1851. His marriage with Elizabeth Potter was celebrated Nov. 6, 1855; she was born in Greenville Township, Darke Co., Sept. 26, 1829, and was a daughter of David Potter, one of the early pioneers, who came to Darke Co., in 1812 or 1813, and died in 1869; his widow who survives him, is now living upon the old place, where she has lived for upward of fifty years; her maiden name was Maria Ullery: the children by the union of Joseph Beanblossom and Elizabeth Potter are four in number, viz.: John R., born June 29, 1857; George N., born Aug. 24, 1858; Charles F., born May 26, 1860; Maria, July 27, 1864. Mr. Beanblossom located upon his present place in 1857, where he has since lived for a period of upward of twenty-two years. Upon locating here it was all woods: he has since cleared some 70 acres, and brought the same to a good state of improvement. His home farm contains 140 acres, with good buildings, located two miles northwest from Greenville. Mr. and Mrs. Beanblossom are entitled to a place in the front ranks of the old settlers of Darke Co., having been continuous residents of the county for upward of half a century.

**JACOB L. BEATTY**, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Greenville. Among the settlers of Darke Co. in 1850, we mention the name of the above gentleman: he was born in Fayette Co., Penn., April 16, 1816, and was the only son of Thos. Beatty, who was born in New Jersey in 1787, and came to Pennsylvania with his parents in 1797, and to Guernsey Co., Ohio, in 1832, and, in the fall of 1848, came to Darke Co., and located in Neave Township, where he died Jan. 21, 1855. He married Mary Roury, in Pennsylvania, in 1815; she was born in Fayette Co., Penn., April 8, 1798, and is now living with her only son, Jacob, in the 82d year of her age, is in possession of all her faculties, and can read any common print without the use of glasses; there were two children by this union—Jacob L. and Eliza; the latter is now Mrs. Dr. Thomas Duncan Stiles, of Neave Township. The subject of this sketch followed farming in Guernsey Co. until 1850, at which date he came to Darke Co. and located upon his present place, where he has since lived for a period of thirty years; he has 120 acres of land upon Secs. 8 and 5, 80 acres of which are under a good state of cultivation. His marriage with Hester Stiner was celebrated in 1840; they were the parents of six children—Mary E., born Sept. 18, 1841; William H., April 16, 1843; Sarah A., March 7, 1845, died Aug. 30, 1846; Eliza J., born Nov. 20, 1847; Thomas, May 10, 1851, and Reuben L., Dec. 21, 1860.

**SAMUEL BECHTOLT**, farmer; P. O. Greenville; born in Miami Co., Ohio, Jan. 10, 1819; when an infant, his parents removed to Warren Co., where the subject of our sketch was raised to farm labor until 20 years of age, and, in the fall of 1849, he came to Darke Co. and located in Greenville Township, and, in 1852, purchased his present place, where he has lived for a period of twenty-seven years. He owns 132 acres upon his home farm, with good farm buildings, and one-half of the woolen-mills owned by the firm of Fox & Bechtolt. His marriage with Eleanor Vannote was celebrated in 1840; she was born in Warren Co., Ohio; they have four children now living: lost two by death; the living are Catherine E., Joseph, Mary E. and George; the deceased died in infancy.

**LEWIS BECKLER**, farmer; P. O. Greenville; another of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Aug. 30, 1837: at 10 years of age, he came to Darke Co., and made his home with Henry Beckler until 23 years of age, and, upon the 20th of December, 1860, was united in marriage with Elizabeth





Dininger; she was born in Darke Co. April 14, 1843; they were the parents of two children. Mrs. Beckler is a daughter of Jacob Dininger, one of the early pioneers of Darke Co. Upon the marriage of Mr. B. he located upon his present place, where he has since lived; he owns 100 acres, upon which is his home farm, under a good state of improvement. He is a son of Peter Beckler, a native of Pennsylvania, who came to Montgomery Co., Ohio, where he married Hannah Dill. He died in Montgomery Co. in 1840. His widow was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, and is now living, at the advanced age of 73.

CHARLES BILTEMIER, manufacturer and dealer in boots and shoes, etc., of the firm of Biltemier & Maitini, Broadway, Greenville. The above gentleman is the oldest continuous person in the above business in Greenville: he was born in Hessian Germany in 1822; at the age of 14 years, he commenced the trade of shoemaking, which he followed twelve years in his native country: he emigrated to America in 1848, and landed in Baltimore; coming directly West, he located permanently in Greenville in 1849, where he has since lived: upon locating here, he received employment as journeyman until 1855, at which date he engaged in business for himself, which he has since successfully followed; in 1864, he associated with his present partner, since which time they have conducted the business under the above firm name: they carry a large and complete stock of 'gents', ladies', youths' and children's goods, and employ from three to five hands. He was married to Carolina Dohm in 1852; she was born in Hessian Germany: they have four children now living, viz., Lizzie, Caroline, Henry and Anna. He, with his wife, have been members of the German Methodist Church since 1853.

WILLIAM J. BIRELEY, retired, Greenville: was born in Frederick Co., Md., in 1812; was the son of John and Barbara Bireley; John was born in the same county, and Barbara was born in Hagerstown, Md.; her maiden name was Brindle; the grandfather, John Bireley, was born in Saxony, and emigrated to this country before the Revolutionary war. The grandmother was from Wurtemberg, Germany, and also came to this country prior to the Revolutionary war. Mr. Bireley's father came to Lancaster, Ohio, in the spring of 1822, and in the fall following came to Montgomery Co., where he lived till his death, which occurred in 1827. Mr. Bireley, the subject of this sketch, came to Darke Co. Oct. 15, 1830, and located in Greenville; he carried on the boot and shoe business for William Martin, Sr., and continued with him about five months, when he returned to his mother, in Montgomery Co., where he remained till 1833, when, on Jan. 24 of the same year, he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Martin, daughter of Christopher and Elizabeth Martin, Sr.: they were both born at Sewickley, Penn., and came to Ohio in 1814: they settled in Butler Co., and then moved to Darke Co. in 1815, and settled about five miles east of Greenville; after raising a large family of children, they moved to Greenville, where they lived and died. Mr. Bireley, in the next May after his marriage, in 1833, came back to Greenville and entered upon the manufacture of earthenware, which business he followed for twenty-eight years, doing an extensive business; he then bought a farm of 150 acres, one mile out of the corporation of Greenville; he then took his family and moved on to the farm, which was in 1851; in 1853, he sold this farm and bought another, five miles east of Greenville, upon which were several quarries of limestone, and went into the manufacture of lime, and continued at this business till January, 1880, when he rented it to Martin Smith and Emanuel Hershey for five years, receiving \$400 yearly, or \$2,000 for the five years; Mr. Bireley moved from the farm into Greenville in 1870, where he has since resided. Mr. Bireley is the father of ten children, seven of whom are living, viz., Henry P., Elizabeth E., William W., Barbara C., Harvey H., Wade G. and Mary R., all married and settled in life except the youngest, who is still single, and remains at home. At the commencement of the rebellion, his three oldest sons enlisted in the 44th O. V. I., and, after being out eighteen months, they went into the 8th O. V. C., and in this they served through the war till





honorably discharged, and all returned safely home. Mr. Bireley was one of the pioneers, coming here when all was a wilderness, and but few houses constituted Greenville; he has lived to see the wilderness pass away, and now a flourishing town of 4,000 inhabitants occupies the spot where then all was woods and wild animals; even the citizens who lived here then have all passed away, with but few exceptions, viz., Henry Arnold and wife, Dr. I. N. Gard and wife, John Wharry, Esq., Allen La Mott and Mrs. Farrer. Mr. Bireley and wife are active members of the M. E. Church, having united in 1834. Mr. Bireley started in life upon sound principles, having resolved never to take the wine cup or waste his time and means in attending shows and theaters, which resolution he has firmly kept; he is one of the few whose life is filled up with usefulness, and whose business interests in his various undertakings have met with remarkable success, and we may trust that from his Christian life he will enter that "life beyond the vale" in due time, with the same assurance of success and happiness, unalloyed with the cares and conflicts which attend this life, and that the record he has here left upon the pages of time will be a worthy example for all future generations.

WILLIAM F. BISHOP, retired; P. O. Greenville; another of the old settlers; born in New Jersey April 27, 1800; is a son of Frazee Bishop, who was also a native of the same State, born in 1775 and married, in 1797, Elizabeth Lamb, also a native of the same State. Our subject came to Ohio when 5 years of age, and was raised in Butler Co.; in 1842, he came to Darke Co. and purchased 217 acres of land upon Section 9, southwest of Greenville, where he lived until 1865, when he purchased his present residence on Fourth street, where he has since lived, retired from active business. His marriage with Maria Bogus was celebrated Sept. 6, 1825; she was born in Kentucky Dec. 6, 1805. They are the parents of ten children, of whom seven are now living, Thompson L. being the oldest, and is prominently mentioned among the sketches of this township. Mr. and Mrs. Bishop have peacefully trod the path of life together for a period of upward of fifty-four years; the anniversary of their golden wedding was celebrated, at their residence on Third street, Greenville, upon Sept. 6, 1875, to which were gathered some 300 persons, representatives of all ages, from childhood to old age, to pay their respects to this aged couple. They came loaded with costly gifts, among which we mention a gold-headed cane and gold spectacles to Mr. Bishop; Mrs. Bishop received her full share. Mr. Bishop has been a member of both the I. O. O. F. and Masonic Orders for many years, and is held in respect and esteem by all who know him.

THOMPSON L. BISHOP, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Greenville; one of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born in Butler Co., Ohio, Nov. 8, 1829; he attended the common and high schools, until 12 years of age, and in 1842 came to Darke Co. with his parents, and located on Section 9, where he assisted his father in agricultural pursuits, until he attained his majority. In 1850, he went to Warren Co. and for three years was employed by the month as farm laborer; the first year he received for his wages \$144, and for the next two years he received \$15 per month; in 1853, he returned to Darke Co. and cropped with his father two years, receiving one-third of the proceeds. The summer of 1855 he passed in traveling through the Western States, and in the spring of 1856, he purchased an interest in the saw-mill at Gordon, Twin Township, and followed this business four years, and in the spring of 1860 purchased ninety acres of his place, and has since added, by purchase, three acres, and has made improvements upon the buildings to the amount of \$5,000, and has brought the same to a fine state of cultivation, located one mile from the city limits of Greenville. He was united in marriage with Cynthia A. Dunham, in Warren Co., Ohio, Dec. 10, 1856; she was born in the same county in 1836. They have three children, viz., Sylvan E., Cora, and William G. Mr. and Mrs. Bishop have been members of the Baptist Church for a period of twenty years.

JAMES J. BLEASE, manufacturer and dealer in boots and shoes, No. 9





Third Street, Greenville, Ohio. Greenville, like all cities of its size, has its representative business men in nearly every branch of trade, and to the above gentleman must be accorded the honor of being the representative merchant, in his line, of the place. He is a native of Birmingham, Warwickshire, England, and was born April 18, 1843. At 7 years of age, he emigrated to America with his parents, landing in New Orleans March 17, 1851; thence to Cincinnati, where he attended public school continuously until the spring of 1857, at which date he removed to Richmond, Ind., and learned the shoemaker's trade, and, in 1863, engaged in the boot and shoe business, which he continued to follow until 1868, at which date he came to Greenville, and in October, 1869, engaged in the above business, which he has successfully followed. He has given a great deal of attention to the manufacturing of boots and shoes to order, and also manufacturing for his retail trade; he gives employment to from five to ten hands, and carries the largest stock of boots and shoes in Greenville, and by honorable and fair dealing, together with his personal attention given to every detail of his business, has built up a large trade, which is yearly increasing. His marriage with Martha A. Pannel was celebrated in 1869; she was a native of Eastern Virginia; they were the parents of three children, of whom two are deceased; the living is James S.

B. BLOTTMAN, grocery and provisions, queensware, fruits and country produce, Greenville. Among the most enterprising and energetic business men of Greenville, the gentleman whose name heads this sketch requires more than a passing notice; he was born in Baden, Germany, May 6, 1846; at 9 years of age he emigrated to America, coming to Greenville Dec. 31, 1854; he was employed at various pursuits for several years, among which were draying, ditching and farming, and as hostler; in 1864, he had accumulated \$90, with which he purchased a dray and harness, then purchased a horse on time and commenced draying as his first business adventure, and by close attention, hard labor and correct business principles, he succeeded beyond his most sanguine expectations; in 1865, he disposed of his draying, and with the fruits of his previous earnings embarked in the grocery trade, which business he has since successfully followed, his sales having increased until 1879, and exceeds upward of \$30,000; Mr. B. is one of the self-made men of Darke Co., commencing in life without capital, and has, by his energy and correct business principles, placed himself in the front ranks of the successful merchants of Greenville. His marriage with Mary A. Kelly was celebrated in Greenville, Sept. 15, 1868; she was a native of Pennsylvania; they have three children now living, having lost one by death—the living are William B., Mary M. and James F.

H. BORNSTEIN, wholesale and retail dealer in wines, liquors, etc., Greenville. Born in Berlin, Prussia, Sept. 18, 1827, where he received his education in the subscription school, and was engaged as clerk in the dry-goods store of his father until 17 years of age, when he emigrated to America, landing in New York in 1844; he then devoted several years traveling in the Southern and Western States, and in 1853, located in Dayton, Montgomery Co., and until 1875 was engaged in business in Dayton and Cincinnati; in the fall of 1875, he removed to Greenville, where he has since successfully followed the above business; a card of his business appears in the business directory of Greenville in another part of this work. He was married in Cincinnati in 1860, to Sarah Childs, who was born in that city; they have four children—Rosa, Eddie, Malcolm and Blanche.

DR. LEO MYERS BUCHWALTER, physician and surgeon, Greenville. the paternal ancestry of Dr. Buchwalter, whose portrait appears in this work, can be traced, not without many missing links, however, to the year 1527, at which time the Mennonites or Anabaptists (to which denomination they belonged) on account of their peculiar belief, were compelled through religious persecution to flee from their native canton, Berne, Switzerland, first to the Netherlands, and subsequently to the United States, arriving in Lancaster Co., Penn., about the year 1709. From the time of their exodus until the birth of Gerhardt Buchwalter,





grandfather of Dr. Buchwalter, the line of genealogy cannot be traced with certainty. He, it appears, was born in Lancaster Co., Penn., June 9, 1771. Married Maria Brobsten in 1796, who bore him thirteen children: Benjamin, the oldest, father of Dr. Buchwalter, was born August 9, 1797; married Catharine Miller, daughter of Joseph Miller, of Middletown, Md., in 1824, the fruits of which were eight children, two of whom survive; in 1826, he removed to Dayton, Ohio, and after remaining here ten years, went to Laurel, Franklin Co., Ind., where he followed his calling of millwright, erecting many of the best mills in the country; in 1842, he left Laurel and located in Harrison, Hamilton Co., Ohio, at which place he was appointed Postmaster in 1852, in which capacity he served until 1861, when he was elected Mayor, the duties of which office he creditably discharged for a period of ten years; after this he came to Darke Co., and soon after died at Euphemia, Preble Co., Ohio; his wife followed him July 11, 1877. Dr. Buchwalter, the subject of this sketch, was born April 11, 1831, in Dayton, Ohio; his boyhood days were passed in the usual routine incident to youthful life in general up to a suitable age to attend school, which in those early days was not over a stone pavement a few blocks distance to a fine schoolhouse, but, when the boy was determined enough to encounter the difficulties, he took his lonely way through the woods, along a winding path for many miles to a rude log cabin; these very hardships, stamped upon that boy an energy of purpose, which intensified by maturer years, defies all opposition; at the tender age of 12, Dr. Buchwalter's father placed him in his mill, requiring his time eighteen hours out of the twenty-four—six of which, however, viz., from 6 P. M. until 12 M., being watch duty, he employed in reading and study, thus acquiring a very fair education in the English branches; in his 16th year he began teaching, which he followed about four years, then entered the store of Michael Miller, at Euphemia, as clerk; having thus by his own industry secured the necessary funds, he, in the fall of 1855, began reading medicine in the office of Dr. G. S. Goodheart, of Harrison, Ohio; before completing his course of reading, however, he was compelled to resume the counter, first with Miller & Moore, and subsequently with Moore & Winner. On the 1st day of November, 1864, he married Miss Matella Wilson, second daughter of Hon. William Wilson, of Greenville, by whom he had one child—Anna. In the spring of 1866, Dr. Buchwalter graduated from the Miami College of Medicine, and immediately located in Hollandsburg, in which he remained nine years, in the mean time building up an extensive practice; in 1874, he removed to Greenville, where he has by his indomitable will, untiring perseverance, and thorough acquaintance with his profession, built up a practice, which, while it is inferior to none in the county, is rapidly and permanently increasing. Dr. Buchwalter possesses an excellent library, which he is constantly enlarging by the addition of the leading medical and scientific productions of the day; he is, in the broadest sense of the term, a self-made man, and has won his way, conquering step by step, every opposing element that has impeded his pathway to that success and high professional skill to which he has at length fully attained. In the Biographical Cyclopædia, appears a biographical sketch of the Doctor, to which, through more recent information, we are enabled to add some additional facts and emendations.

**ABRAHAM N. BREWER.** harness-maker, Greenville. The gentleman whose name heads this article was born in Warren Co., Ohio, July 1, 1833, and is a son of Abraham and Ann Brewer; his father was born in Kentucky Jan. 17, 1800, and departed this life July 27, 1843; his mother was born in Pennsylvania March 18, 1797, and died Aug. 26, 1873. Our subject's early days were spent on the farm, and, after he had attained a proper age, he learned the carpenter trade, which he followed for five years, and then followed wagon-making in Arcanum, where he settled in 1858; in 1865, he turned his attention to the manufacture of harness, in which ever since he has been successfully engaged; none know better how to do their patrons justice, and Abraham will always be found





ready and willing to give his patrons the best stock in the market, and his jobs are turned out in a workmanlike manner. His first marriage was consummated with Mary Hough June 8, 1858; to their union, five children were given, viz., Lorenzo, Thomas N., Ella H. and two dying in infancy; Mrs. Brewer departed this life Nov. 9, 1863; his second marriage was celebrated with Miss Emeline Baker, in November, 1874.

**JOSEPH BRYSON**, farmer and stock-raiser; resides on Sec. 9, Township 11, Greenville Township; P. O. Greenville. Among the old settlers of Darke Co., the gentleman whose name heads this sketch is assigned a place in the front ranks, being born upon the place where he now resides, on the 30th of November, 1821; he was a son of James Bryson, one of the early pioneers of Darke Co., who came from Bedford Co., Penn., and located upon the above place in 1817; he was born near Hagerstown, Md., May 21, 1786, and died March 20, 1863, upon the place where he had lived for nearly half a century. He married Mrs. Rachael Rush Aug. 12, 1817; her maiden name was Rachael Creviston; she was born March 3, 1784, and died Feb. 14, 1855; she came to Darke Co. in 1810; her first husband was Henry Rush, and Lemuel Rush, now living three and a half miles north of Greenville, is the only child now living by that union, and is probably the oldest continuous male resident of Darke Co.; the children of James and Rachel Bryson were six in number—Morris, whose sketch appears in this work, born May 13, 1818; Mary Ann, born Jan. 29, 1820, died Dec. 15, 1854; Joseph, born Nov. 30, 1821; Rachel J., born Dec. 25, 1823; Eliza, born Jan. 23, 1826, and James H., born Feb. 26, 1829. Until 25 years of age, Joseph followed farming on the old place; he then followed carpentering and farming during the summer, and school-teaching during the winter, for seventeen years, since which time he has devoted his whole attention to farming; he has resided upon his present place for a period of fifty-eight years, and is the oldest continuous resident upon any one place that the writer of this article has yet found in Darke Co.

**MORRIS BRYSON**, farmer and stock-raiser. Sec. 8; P. O. Woodington; one of the old settlers of Darke Co., Ohio; born in Darke Co., what is now Greenville Township, May 13, 1818; his father, James Bryson, was born in Washington Co., Md., May 21, 1786, and came to Darke Co. in 1816. He held various offices in the county, among which was County Commissioner, and served a term in the Assembly of Ohio; was County Judge some ten years, and was Justice of the Peace many years, and held other offices. He died March 20, 1863. He married Mrs. Rachel (Creviston) Rush; she was previously the wife of Henry Rush, who died in Ft. Rush, during the campaign of Harrison; his brother Andrew was killed in 1812, by the Indians, upon their first depredation; the first white child born in Darke Co. was Thomas Rush, a half-brother of the subject of our sketch; the latter was raised to agricultural pursuits, and, upon the 8th of April, 1846, was united in marriage with Mary Ann Cole; she was a daughter of Joseph Cole, one of the early pioneers of Darke Co., who located here in 1818; upon his marriage, he farmed rented land two years, and, in 1848, purchased 80 acres of his present place, where he has lived for a period of thirty-one years; he now has 287 acres of land, all of which he has earned by his own hard labor, with the exception of 80 acres. The children of Morris and Mary Ann (Cole) Bryson were ten in number, of whom seven are now living, viz.: James W., Rachel, Joseph C., Isaac N., Anna C., Volney D. and David H.

**JOHN K. BUTT**, farmer, Sec. 24; P. O. Greenville; born in Butler Co., Ohio, Oct. 22, 1824; when 5 years of age, his father died; he lived with his mother until 16 years of age, when he commenced to learn the blacksmith trade, which business he followed with the exception of six years, until 1871; he then came to Greenville Township, and purchased 12 acres of land upon Secs. 12 and 13, where he lived until the spring of 1879, when he rented the farm upon which he lives. He is now farming 89 acres, and is engaged in raising corn, wheat and tobacco; he first came to Darke Co. when 13 years of age, and, after a residence





of three years in Palestine, went to Preble Co. and has since lived in Preble, Montgomery and Darke Cos. He has been twice married; his first wife was Delia Arnett; they were married Oct. 10, 1844; she was born in Montgomery Co. and died Oct. 22, 1858, leaving two children, viz.: Sarah A., born Sept. 12, 1845, now Mrs. Jacob T. Miller, of Montgomery Co.; Marion A., born Feb. 8, 1852, now Mrs. Philip Hartzell, of Darke Co. His marriage with Eliza Lantz was celebrated in Montgomery Co. Dec. 6, 1859; she was born in Berks Co., Penn., June 3, 1837; they have three children—Flora F., born July 18, 1861; William P., born Oct. 3, 1864; Franklin E., born July 11, 1867.

ANDREW ROBESON CALDERWOOD, attorney at law, Greenville; another of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Sept. 14, 1818, and was a son of George and Margaret (Robeson) Calderwood, natives of Huntingdon Co., Penn. They were married Sept. 14, 1811; in the fall of 1817, they removed to near Dayton, Ohio, and from there, in 1832, to Darke Co., where George Calderwood died Sept. 7, 1849; his wife survived him until Aug. 12, 1873, when her decease occurred. George Calderwood was of Scotch parents, and, though uneducated, was a man of sound judgment, great firmness and very courageous; of large stature and possessed an iron constitution; he was kind and generous to a fault. Margaret Robeson descended from Scotch, Welsh and Irish ancestry, and was a woman of remarkable good sense, fine natural talent and great kindness. Our subject was employed in early life upon the farm, digging ditches, mauling rails, etc.; his education was meager; being called upon to serve as juror, he was so inspired by the eloquence of some of the attorneys in the case that he resolved to become a lawyer, and at once commenced the study of the same, being admitted to the bar and commenced the practice of law in 1851. Was elected Probate Judge in 1854; after serving three years, he entered the Union army as Second Lieutenant; was promoted Captain of Co. I, 40th O. V. I.; resigned his commission on account of injuries received from being thrown from a horse; on regaining his health he was recommissioned as Captain by Gov. Tod, and, by Col. Cranor, assigned to the command of his old company; after six months' service, in the above position, by loss of his voice and previous injuries he was again compelled to leave the active service of the army and acted in the capacity of recruiting officer until the close of the war, after which he again resumed the practice of the law. On Dec. 3, 1876, he assumed the editorial control of the *Sunday Courier*, a leading organ of the Republican party of Darke Co. He has been three times elected Mayor of Greenville, and, in 1868, the Republicans of Darke Co. presented his name in the Fourth Congressional District of Ohio, his opponent, Mr. McClung, being nominated by a small majority over Judge Calderwood. He has a liberal share of the practice in this county, and enjoys somewhat more than a local reputation as a criminal lawyer; at the forum, his abilities are best shown: he has an original faculty of developing a subject by a single glance of the mind, detecting as quickly the point upon which every controversy depends. There is a deep self-conviction and emphatic earnestness in his manner and a close, logical connection in his thoughts; he wears no garlands of flowers to hang in festoons around a favorite argument, yet for impromptu appeals and eloquence he stands among the first in his profession, and, by his great knowledge of human nature, he is acknowledged to be one of the best judges of a jury at the bar.

HENRY CALKINS, lawyer, Greenville. The subject of this memoir was born in West Burlington, Bradford Co., Penn., upon the 5th of December, 1832, and is a son of Moses and Eveline (Broffett) Calkins, who were married in Pennsylvania about the year 1826; Moses Calkins was born in Bradford Co., Penn., April 6, 1797, his father being one of four men who first settled in the county in 1790, was the father of five sons and four daughters, and died at the advanced age of 80; his widow's decease occurred two weeks later, at the age of 78; of their children, three now survive, viz., Moses, the father of our subject, now 84 years of age, and two daughters, aged 82 and 86 years, all in good health: the





children of Moses and Eveline (Broffett) Calkins were six in number, of whom five are now living, viz., Charles, born Feb. 11, 1827, and whose biography also appears in this work, our subject being the next surviving member; Edward, born in 1836, a prominent lawyer of Richmond, Ind., since 1862; Alfred, born in 1838, a resident of and Mayor of New Paris, Ohio; Emma, born in 1841, now Mrs. C. B. Northrup, of New Madison. The maiden name of the great-grandmother of our subject on his mother's side was Gore; her husband was killed at the Wyoming massacre; she, with two children, one of them the grandmother of Mr. Calkins, escaped with other fugitives by boat up the Susquehanna River, then across the mountains, and located in the Sheshequin Valley, Bradford Co., Penn., where she died in 1833, being 90 years of age; her daughter Rebecca, the grandmother of Mr. Calkins, was born in 1774; was married, in 1794, to James Broffett, and were the parents of five children, all of whom were early settlers of Darke Co., viz., Silas and Alfred Broffett, at Broffettsville, Harrison Township; Celinda, wife of Judge Jaqua, of New Madison, and Lucinda, wife of Rial Lawrence; her second husband was Joseph Bloom, by whom she had four children—Charles, Guy, Hiram, and Celinda, now the wife of A. L. Northrup, residing in New Madison; she died at the age of 84; the parents of Mr. Calkins are now living at New Paris, Preble Co.; they came to Darke Co. in 1852, and settled in Harrison Township. The education of our subject was obtained in the common schools up to 16 years of age; he then received an academical course at Troy, Bradford Co., Penn.; then was a student of the Delaware (Ohio) College two years; afterward studied medicine and attended a course of lectures at Cincinnati Medical College; in the spring of 1856, he went across the Plains, remaining until 1859. Upon Dec. 12, 1862, he was married to Harriet E. McClure, at Peru, Ind. The following August, he enlisted a company of 101 men, and went out as Captain of Co. C, 87th Ind. V. L., serving through Kentucky and Tennessee. After returning from the army, he returned to Illinois and engaged in farming, stock-raising, etc. Was Police Judge of the city of Jerseyville, Ill., in 1868; was admitted as a member of the bar in 1870, and was afterward elected two terms as City Solicitor; in 1874, he came to Greenville, and engaged in the law business with his brother Charles. Was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Darke Co. in 1877, and re-elected in 1879. Has always voted the Democratic ticket. Henry Calkins is the father of three children now living, having lost three by death. During the residence of Moses Calkins in Pennsylvania, he was largely identified with the lumber trade, and, upon locating here, has been engaged in loaning money, etc.; he is a man of sterling worth, and a great champion of the cause of temperance.

**CHARLES CALKINS**, attorney at law, Greenville. The subject of this sketch was born in Burlington Township, Bradford Co., Penn., Feb. 11, 1827, and is a son of Moses Calkins, who is prominently mentioned in the biography of Henry Calkins in this work. The early education of our subject was obtained like other boys of the age, in an old log schoolhouse; at 16 years of age, he entered the academy at West Troy, where he received his academic education under the instruction of Ezra Long. Afterward, his father becoming largely indebted to the Bank of North America, in Philadelphia, for lands then owned by him, required all his efforts, as well as of his son, to liquidate the same; accordingly he built four saw-mills, and Charles run one of them one-half of the time, day and night, until his majority, the balance of the time being employed in rafting and running lumber down the Susquehanna River. At the age of 21, he commenced the study of law at Towanda, Penn., with John C. Adams, who was an able lawyer, a just man, and distinguished throughout the State for his prominence and ability. He continued his studies with the above gentleman until April 11, 1849, when through the kindness and generosity of Allen and Eliza McKean, he was furnished with means to take him to the gold mines of California, and to the above parties he holds the deepest feelings of gratitude and esteem. After remaining in California some eighteen months, meeting with fine success, he returned to Bradford Co., Penn.





thence to Darke Co., with a cousin, in 1851, with the expectation of remaining but two weeks, but through the fortuity of Providence, he has made it his home for nearly thirty years. Upon the 1st of June, 1852, he formed a partnership under the firm name of Collins & Calkins, this partnership continuing until September, 1855, when it was dissolved by the death of Mr. Collins. In 1854, he was elected Prosecuting Attorney for two years; re-elected in 1866 for two years, and again in 1868 for the same length of time, and has had an honorable and lucrative practice since being admitted to the bar in 1852. His marriage with Elizabeth Stamm was celebrated in the spring of 1853. She was also a native of Pennsylvania. They have four children now living, viz., Leulla, Harriet and Henry (twins) and George.

L. E. CHENOWETH, attorney at law, Greenville; was born in Washington Township, on the 3d of December, 1840. His father, Thomas F. Chenoweth, came to Darke Co., from Franklin Co., Ohio, in 1818, and entered the farm on which he has since resided. L. E. Chenoweth was brought up a farmer, but with three brothers learned the trade of bricklaying. He received a good common-school education, and, at the age of 16, taught a district school. He taught school several terms. On the 13th of May, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Co. K, 11th O. V. I., for three months' service, and was honorably discharged Aug. 17, 1861; re-enlisted Oct. 25, 1861, in Co. E, 69th O. V. I.; was appointed Commissary Sergeant of said regiment, Feb. 1, 1863, at Murfreesboro, Tenn., and soon after appointed Quartermaster Sergeant of said regiment. Re-enlisted as veteran volunteer, Feb. 26, 1864, at Chattanooga, Tenn.; was discharged from service as Quartermaster Sergeant, at Sister's Ferry, Ga., Feb. 1, 1865, and was mustered in on same day as First Lieutenant of Co. H, 69th O. V. I. and, on same day, was appointed Quartermaster of said regiment. Was appointed Brigade Quartermaster on the staff of Gen. George P. Buell, commanding 2d Brigade, 1st Division, 14th Army Corps, at Goldsboro, N. C., March 27, 1865. Was commissioned and mustered as Captain of Co. I, O. V. I., June 16, 1865, at Louisville, Ky., and was discharged on the 17th of July, 1865, at the close of the war. Was present at the following battles: Stone River, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Ringgold, Snake Creek Gap, Buzzard's Roost, Resaca, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Marietta, Chattahoochee River, Peach Tree Creek, siege of Atlanta, Jonesboro and Savannah and Goldsboro, N. C. Since the war, has been engaged in the grocery business, miller, engineer, merchant tailoring, boot and shoe store, foundry and machine shop and a traveling salesman, handling school furniture and supplies, in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Canada. On the 5th day of December, 1876, in the Supreme Court of Ohio, was duly admitted to the practice of the law, since which time he has been engaged in the business of his profession. He married, on the 3d of July, 1867, Effie A. Arnold, daughter of Noah Arnold, Esq., of Jaysville, Darke Co. Has two children—Millie and James.

B. H. CLARK, Sec. 4; P. O. Woodington; an early pioneer of Darke Co.; born in Lebanon Co., Penn., Sept. 16, 1821; he was a son of Samuel Clark, who was born in Pennsylvania March 31, 1796; he came to Darke Co. in 1831, and located in Washington Township, where he lived until his decease, which occurred in November, 1872. He married Margaret Hofnagle in Pennsylvania; she was born in the same State in 1797, and died in Washington Township in February, 1863. Our subject came to Darke Co. with his parents in 1831, and is, consequently, one of the early pioneers, and among the oldest continuous residents of the county, having lived here nearly half a century; his education was obtained in a log schoolhouse with stick-and-mud chimney, a large fireplace in which they used logs as large as two or three of the largest boys could handle, and the desks and seats were made of slabs, as well as the writing-desks which extended around the house; he remained with his father until 21 years of age, when he commenced farming for himself, and, in 1857, moved upon his present place, where he has since lived; he has about 80 acres of land, with good farm buildings, which he has





secured by his own hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his amiable wife, to whom he was united in marriage April 25, 1844; she was born in Washington Township, Darke Co., April 18, 1830; her maiden name was Mary Ann Martin, a daughter of Hugh and Eve (Cox) Martin; her father was one of the early pioneers, emigrating from Pennsylvania in 1818, and locating in Washington Township; her mother was a daughter of Jacob Cox, who located here in 1816; he was born in 1801 and died April 7, 1842, upon the farm he first settled on after his marriage; her mother was born in 1796, and died Dec. 13, 1866. The children of B. H. and Mary Ann (Martin) Clark were thirteen in number, of whom eleven are now living—William H., Isaac N., John C., Frank, Margaret E., Clatie F., Angeline M., Jennie, Sherman, Walter and Arthur; the deceased were Charles and Baxter, dying in infancy.

JOHN C. CLARK, firm of Breaden & Clark, attorneys at law, Wilson & Hart's Block, Greenville. The subject of this memoir was born in Washington Township, Darke Co., on the 17th of January, 1849, and is the son of B. H. Clark, another of our old settlers, whose biography also appears in this work. The early occupation of our subject was that of a farmer's son, his education being obtained in the common schools, until 18 years of age, after which he attended the graded schools of Greenville for three years; the following three years he devoted to school-teaching, and, during vacation, gave his whole attention to study: in 1873, he commenced the study of law with Calderwood & Cole, was admitted to the bar in 1877, and, shortly after, associated with J. E. Breaden, Jr., under the firm name, now doing an extensive law business, which is yearly increasing.

HENRY M. COLE, lawyer, Greenville; was born in Darke Co., March 17, 1845. His grandfather, Samuel Cole, Sr., was a native of Sussex Co., N. J.; he was one of the earliest settlers, and the first Justice of the Peace of Washington Township; his father and mother are natives of the same township: his father, Samuel Cole, Jr., is a substantial farmer; his mother was Elizabeth Cox; of a family of eleven children, our subject is the eldest; by arduous study, with only common-school advantages, he obtained a fair English education; he entered the service of the United States in the war of the rebellion in 1864, and was fifer-boy in Co. G, of the 152d O. N. G.; he read law with Messrs. Knox & Sater, of Greenville; graduated from the Cincinnati Law School in the spring of 1869; was at once admitted to the bar, and commenced practice in Greenville; in August, 1872, he formed a law partnership with Judge A. R. Calderwood, of Greenville, and is still so associated. Politically, he is a Republican. He possesses good legal talent, is a close student, and is devoted to his profession; as a pleader and advocate, he is effective; in legal and general literature, he is well informed, and has the manners of a polished gentleman.

WILLIAM COLE, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 14; P. O. Greenville; born in Greenville Township, Darke Co., March 3, 1849; he is a son of Samuel Cole, who was one of the early settlers of Darke Co., and is one of the oldest continual residents of the county, and is now living in Washington Township, and is a brother of Joseph Cole, whose biography appears among the sketches of Washington Township in another part of this work. Wm. Cole received a common-school education, and assisted his father upon the farm until he attained his majority; in 1872, he located upon his present place where he has since lived: he has 160 acres on his home farm, with good buildings. He married Clarissa Alexander Aug. 3, 1871; she was born in Preble Co., Ohio, Sept. 7, 1852; they have five children—Baxter, born April 11, 1873; Samuel G., Aug. 8, 1874; John, Sept. 21, 1875; George, March 25, 1877, and an infant, July 10, 1879. Mrs. Cole was a daughter of Samuel Alexander, who died in Washington Township Oct. 7, 1873; her mother's maiden name was Elizabeth Roberts, who died in 1874.

JACOB W. COX, manufacturer of boots and shoes, Sec. 31; P. O. Greenville. One of the old settlers, born in Greenville Township, Darke Co., Ohio, Aug. 12, 1841. He was a son of Jesse Cox, the first white child born in Washington





Township (date of birth. 1817), whose occupation was farming; his death occurred on Oct. 4, 1873. He married Prudence J. Wintermute, a native of New Jersey, born in 1820, who is still living in Greenville Township. Jacob W. raised to farm labor until 14 years of age, when he commenced to learn the shoemaker's trade, which business he followed in connection with farming until 1873, since which time he has devoted his whole attention to his trade upon Sec. 31, where he resides. Upon the 14th of March, 1869, he was married to Mary E. Bechtold, daughter of Samuel Bechtold, whose sketch appears among the biography of Greenville Township; they have three children—Charles N., Francis M. and Bellzoria.

**FRANK T. CONKLING**, book-keeper, Greenville; born in Hamilton Co., Ohio, Feb. 27, 1858; his early education was obtained in the common schools of his native place, and completed by a study of eight years in Cincinnati; in 1875, he came to Greenville, and in July, 1876, accepted a position as book-keeper of the Greenville Bank, which situation he has since filled with credit to himself, and satisfaction to his employers.

**DAVID CRAIG**, retired; P. O. Greenville; another of the early pioneers of Darke Co. is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch; born in Montgomery Co., Oct. 5, 1804, and was a son of John Craig, a native of Virginia, who had a hatred to the institution of slavery, and emigrated to Kentucky, then a free State, but upon slavery being admitted as one of its institutions, he came to Montgomery Co., Ohio, where his death occurred in 1812; in the spring of 1816, our subject came to Darke Co., being then 12 years of age, and he and his twin brother contracted and cleared several acres of land in Wayne Township, by which they cleared upward of \$1 per day each: at 15 years of age, he went to Butler Co., and learned the blacksmith trade; his skill and reputation in the making of edge tools soon became established, and for three years he found employment at Amanda, most of the time making stonecutter's tools for the contractors of the Miami Canal; he was a witness to the commencement of the building of the canal, and saw the first dirt thrown out by Gov. Merrill, of Ohio, and Gov. Clinton, of New York; in 1828, he and his twin brother purchased two lots on Main street, Greenville, erected a wagon and blacksmith shop, and carried on the above business in connection with the manufacture of plows and agricultural implements until 1850, when he located upon his farm, two and a half miles south of Greenville, and here he engaged in farming until the spring of 1877, when he disposed of his farm, removed to Greenville, where he has since lived. Mr. Craig has suffered the privations and hardships of frontier life; upon locating here he had to go to Montgomery Co., purchase corn at \$1 per bushel, and bring it to Greenville upon horseback; it may be said of him that he is one of the self-made men of Darke Co.; coming here at 12 years of age, he battled against adversity for many years, and now at the advanced age of 75 years is in possession of all his faculties, and has accumulated sufficient property by his hard labor and correct business habits to carry him and his amiable wife through their declining years. Upon the 3d of August, 1834, he was united in marriage with Ruhanah Shanon, who was born in Cumberland Co., Penn., Feb. 17, 1816, and came to Darke Co. with her parents in 1832. They were the parents of three sons and four daughters, viz., Elizabeth A., born Sept. 15, 1835; James M., Nov. 29, 1836, now in Government employ at Washington; Thomas A., born March 2, 1839—died Feb. 22, 1845; Marietta, May 5, 1842; Martha J., Jan. 18, 1844; Phoebe S., Dec. 17, 1845, and David Edgar, June 1, 1852.

**T. W. CULBERTSON**, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Greenville; was born Oct. 25, 1828, within sight of the place where he now resides; he is the son of Samuel Culbertson, a native of Pennsylvania, who was born in June, 1801, and emigrated with his family to this county at quite an early day, settling on a piece of land in Van Buren Township. At that time, this county was almost entirely covered over with dense forests and immense swamps; the labors of the pioneer had not yet made extensive inroads on the vast wilderness. He was united in





marriage with Miss Rebecca Westfall in 1823: six children were born of this union, to wit: Orin, Mary J., T. W. Elizabeth and James; Orin and Elizabeth are deceased; the others are settled in this county. The privations and hardships of pioneer life soon told upon the health of the elder Culbertson, and in 1837, he was called to bid farewell to his family and take his departure to that "undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns," leaving a loving wife and six small children to contend with the trials and difficulties incident to frontier life: his wife remained upon the homestead and survived him about sixteen years, dying in 1853. Our subject was quite small at the death of his father, after which he remained with his mother till her death, assisting in sustaining her and giving her the comforts of a home; he early learned the brickmason's trade. His educational advantages were necessarily limited, as a pioneer's life is one of constant exertion for sustenance, but what opportunities did offer in this direction were well improved. At the death of his mother, the home was broken up and he went to live with his sister, Mrs. Studabaker. Nov. 26, 1857, he celebrated his marriage with Elizabeth Harper; she is the daughter of William S. Harper, a native of Pennsylvania, who also emigrated to this county at quite an early day. Immediately after the marriage of our subject, he moved upon a piece of land in Sec. 7, which he had previously purchased; this was all in the woods, and he was obliged to clear off a spot large enough to erect a cabin on; this constituted the first home of his own: here, in the dense forest, he set out with his helpmeet, on the course of life, and by their own exertions they have caused the golden grain to wave where once stood the mighty forest; in his rich fertile farm, we again behold industry and frugality bountifully rewarded. They are the parents of seven children, to wit: Frank, Edward, Charlie, William H., Harry, Cora B. and Purley, all of whom are yet living and residing under the parental roof. Mr. Culbertson, realizing the advantages of an education in this advanced day, is offering his children all the opportunities now afforded by this county in this direction, and they, we are glad to chronicle, are making good use of them.

**JOHN W. DEARDOURFF**, manufacturer and dealer in boots and shoes, No. 13, Third street, Greenville. The subject of this memoir is a native of Preble Co., born June 3, 1845; he is a son of Daniel Deardourff, who was born in Adams Co., Penn., and came to Preble Co. about the year 1849. He married Elizabeth Stouffer; she was born in Lancaster Co., Penn., and is now living in Greenville, at the advanced age of 79 years. John W. was raised in Preble Co. until 20 years of age, during which time he attended the common schools, and learned and worked at the shoemaker's trade, which he followed until August, 1862, at which date he enlisted in the 50th O. V. I., and went forward to battle for the Union; he was in many severe engagements, among which was the battle of Perryville, and in the three months' campaign against Atlanta, during which time he was engaged some eighty-four days; after the capture of Atlanta, he returned to Franklin, and after the battle of the latter place, the army fell back to Nashville, where he was engaged in the three days' fight; in the spring of 1865, he joined Sherman at Goldsboro, and was with his army at the surrender of Johnson; he then lay in Salisbury some thirty days, then returned to City Point and Baltimore; thence to Cleveland, where he received his discharge, in the latter part of July, 1865, having served in the Union army three years. Upon receiving his discharge, he came to Darke Co. and was employed at his trade until the spring of 1877, when he engaged in business for himself, which he has since successfully followed; a card of his business is to be found in the business directory of Greenville, in another part of this work. His marriage with Phebe S. Craig was celebrated in March, 1869; she is a daughter of David Craig, whose sketch appears among the biographies of this work; they have two children—Harry A. and Charles.

**JOSIAH B. DEETER**, Sec. 4; farmer and manufacturer of all kinds and sizes of drain tile; P. O. Woodington; his factory is located one-fourth of a mile south of Woodington Station; he may be considered one of our old settlers, being





born in Greenville Township. Darke Co., June 3, 1844; his father, Daniel M. Deeter, was born in Pennsylvania in January, 1801, and came to Darke Co. somewhere about the year 1825, where he has since lived. He married Anna Bolinger in Pennsylvania; she died in the spring of 1879; the subject of this sketch followed agricultural pursuits during the early part of his life, and subsequently purchased an interest in the tile factory of Hime, Martin & Co., which, after two years he became the sole owner of: since that time he has conducted the business in his own name; his yearly sales in tile have exceeded \$3,000; he also owns 94 acres of land, which extends to the station, his residence being located one-fourth of a mile from the same. His marriage with Hattie A. Crosson was celebrated July 17, 1873; she was born in Cincinnati July 18, 1855; she died in April, 1875; one child was born to them—Claud M., born Aug. 29, 1875; died Feb. 19, 1876.

AARON S. DENISE, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 27; P. O. Greenville: one of the early pioneers of Darke Co., born in Butler Co., Ohio, Jan. 16, 1825; he was the oldest son of John S. Denise, who was born in the State of New Jersey March 25, 1803, and came to Ohio when quite young. He was united in marriage in Warren Co., Ohio, with Margaret M. Clark March 18, 1824; she was born in Warren Co. Aug. 15, 1804; they were the parents of ten children, of whom seven are now living; they were among the early settlers of Darke Co., coming here in 1829, and locating upon Sec. 27, Greenville Township, which at that time was a howling wilderness, and upon this spot Mr. Denise passed the remainder of his days; his decease occurred April 25, 1852; his widow now lives upon the same place, and although upward of 75 years of age, is in possession of all her faculties; our subject came to Darke Co. with his parents in 1829, and is consequently one of the old settlers of the county; he remained upon the old homestead until 1855, after which he went to Illinois and remained four years, thence to Missouri, staying there two years, and, in 1861, returned to Darke Co., and, in September of the same year, enlisted in the 40th O. V. I., and went forward to battle for the Union; he was first forwarded to Kentucky, where he was in several battles, after which he was transferred to the Army of the Cumberland; participated in the battle of Chickamauga, then the siege and capture of Atlanta, continuing upward of four months fighting; in the fall of 1864 and the early part of the winter of 1865, he was in the Fourth Army Corps, under Maj. Gen. Thomas, operating in Tennessee in protecting the cities of Nashville, Chattanooga and other points, during which time he was engaged in the battle of Nashville for two days, at the expiration of which time the rebel army under Gen. Hood were badly defeated; he was also in many other engagements; in the spring of 1865, he was forwarded to Texas, and stationed at Galveston and San Antonio for several months, and in the fall of 1865, returned to Columbus, where he was mustered out of service and received his discharge in October of the same year, having served in the Union army upward of four years; after two years' service, he was veteranized, and at the expiration of three years, was transferred to the 51st O. V. I., and remained with the same until the close of the war; he was never taken prisoner, but had many narrow escapes; he was twice wounded, but only kept from duty a short time; he returned home Oct. 25, and located upon his present place, where he has since resided; he has 100 acres in his home farm, of which 50 are under a good state of cultivation, one mile west of the city of Greenville; also 40 acres in Daviess Co., Mo.; Mr. Denise is no politician, but is a strong Republican, and labors for the success of his party, and to make use of his own words, he always votes as he fought.

JOHN G. DEUBNER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 13; P. O. Greenville: one of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born in Saxony, Germany, July 2, 1825, where he received a good German education and followed farming and working in woolen mills until 23 years of age, when he emigrated to America, landing in New York in May, 1848; he immediately came to Darke Co., and was employed working





in the Broadway Hotel, Greenville, some five years, and, in 1853, he located upon Sec. 13, where he has since lived for a period of twenty-six years ; he now has 82 acres under a good state of improvement, with good farm buildings ; when locating here, there were only 15 acres cleared ; he has since cleared 35 acres and brought the same to a good state of cultivation ; when Mr. Deubner purchased his first land, he had a capital of about \$50 ; he has since accumulated all the above property by his own hard labor, and it can be truly said of him that he is one of the self-made men of Darke Co. He is a Democrat in politics, and always labors for the success of the party ; he has held the office of Township Trustee of Greenville Township for three years during his residence here. His marriage with Wilhelmina Bildemeyer was celebrated March 8, 1853 ; she was born in Hessen, Germany, Sept. 11, 1835 ; they were the parents of thirteen children—John C., born Nov. 21, 1853 ; Frederick H., born Sept. 17, 1855 ; Charlotte, Feb. 25, 1858 (died Aug. 10, 1871) ; Lewis H., July 19, 1859 ; John W., Sept. 10, 1861 ; Wilhelmina P., Nov. 29, 1863 ; Charles A., July 14, 1866 ; Caroline S. and Louisa (twins), born Sept. 25, 1868 ; Sophia, March 6, 1871 (died July 20, 1874) ; Powell G., born Feb. 14, 1874 ; Mary, June 11, 1876, and Amelia M., Dec. 3, 1878.

JOHN DEVOR, lawyer, Greenville, was born in Darke Co. in 1831. His grandfather, John Devor, was born in Pennsylvania, and came to Darke Co. in 1808 ; he entered the first half-section of land in the present limits of the county, and laid out the town of Greenville in 1810 ; in 1816, he moved his family to the county, they having, for eight years previously, lived in Montgomery Co., Ohio. Upon the organization of the county, in 1817, he was appointed Treasurer, and served as such three years. He followed the business of surveying for some years. His son, James Devor, was born near Maysville, Ky., while the family were on their way from Pennsylvania, in 1795 ; he learned surveying from his father, and, for a number of years, was County Surveyor. He was the first Auditor of Darke Co., from May, 1844, to October, 1847, he was County Treasurer, and, for a number of years, he was a Justice of the Peace ; he died October, 1855. His wife, Patience Dean, was a daughter of Aaron Dean, one of the early settlers of the county ; they were married March 1, 1823, and ten children were born to them, of whom the second son is our subject. He received a common-school education, and acquired a knowledge of surveying under his father's instruction ; at the age of 19, he commenced the study of law with the late Hiram Bell, Esq., of Greenville, and was admitted to the bar in the spring of 1852, and at once opened an office in Greenville. In 1855, he was elected County Surveyor, and was re-elected in 1858, serving six years ; from 1854 to 1867, he was a law partner of the late Michael Spayd, of Greenville ; in the fall of that year, he formed a law partnership with Hon. William Allen, which continued eleven years. For four years, he was Assistant Assessor of Internal Revenue for the Fourth District of Ohio ; he was also Registrar in Bankruptcy for the same district during the existence of the bankrupt law, which went into effect March, 1867, and terminated September, 1873. July 29, 1856, he married Miss Elizabeth Travis, daughter of John Travis, of Butler Co., Ohio ; Mrs. Devor died Oct. 22, 1878. Formerly a Whig, Mr. Devor naturally became a Republican, and, for many years has been Chairman of the Republican Central Committee of Darke Co. Mr. Devor is eminently social, and is an industrious and energetic business man. He is at present a law partner of M. T. Allen, and the firm is one of the strongest of the Darke Co. bar.

ELIJAH DEVOR, attorney at law, Greenville. The subject of this memoir was born in Darke Co., Ohio, Oct. 16, 1849, and is a brother of John Devor, whose sketch and portrait both appear in this work. Our subject was the son of James Devor, one of our early pioneers, and who, as well as the grandfather, are prominently mentioned in the sketch of John Devor, as well as in the historical part of this work. Elijah Devor obtained a common-school education, and, at 19 years of age, commenced the study of law with Allen & Devor ; he attended the Cincinnati Law School, at Cincinnati, Ohio, one term, graduated from the same,





and was admitted to the bar in April, 1871; commenced the practice of law with M. T. Allen, as a partner, in 1872, and continued the same two years; in 1875, he associated with his present partner, and they have since conducted their business under the firm name of Devor & Bodle. He is, also, Treasurer of the Greenville Gas Co. On the 8th day of October, 1875, he was united in marriage with Emily A. Webb, daughter of H. A. Webb, of Greenville; they have two sons by this union, viz., Henry Webb Devor and John Devor.

WILLIAM H. DILL, merchant, Justice of the Peace and Postmaster, Pikeville; another of the old settlers of Darke Co., born in Beamsville, Richland Township, June 8, 1839; he was the oldest son of John H. C. Dill, who was born in Germany March 16, 1805; he emigrated to America and located in Butler Co., and, about the year 1837, came to Darke Co. and settled in Beamsville, where he lived until 1855; he then removed to Dallas and engaged in the grain trade one year, after which he followed farming three or four years; he then returned to Dallas and engaged in the dry-goods trade for one year, when he came to Pikeville, in the spring of 1862, and engaged in the general merchandise trade and the purchase of grain up to the time of his death, which occurred April 2, 1865. He married Martha C. Seigment, in Ohio, Nov. 17, 1834; she was a native of Germany, born Oct. 23, 1815, and died in Darke Co. March 7, 1858; they were the parents of eleven children, of whom eight are now living, six in Ohio, one in Indiana and one in Missouri. Our subject resided in Beamsville until 16 years of age, where he received some experience in the mercantile store of his father; he then assisted his father in farming, in Brown Township, some four years, when he commenced clerking in Dallas, and, the following year, his father located in Dallas, in the merchandise business, and he then assisted his father in his store one year; in the spring of 1862, he came to Pikeville with his father, and remained with him until the latter's death; he continued the business two years, and, in 1867, the store and stock were destroyed by fire; he was then engaged in various pursuits until the spring of 1879, when he engaged in the merchandise trade, which business he now follows. He received the appointment of Postmaster under the administration of Lincoln, in 1862, and was the first Postmaster of the town; he has also held the office of Justice of the Peace for twelve years in succession. His marriage with Julia A. Reed was celebrated in Darke Co., Ohio, Sept. 8, 1861; she was born in Darke Co. March 28, 1843; they have two children—Ida E., born Sept. 3, 1862, and Frank E., April 26, 1874.

JOHN DININGER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 32; P. O. Greenville. The subject of this memoir is justly entitled to the credit of being one of the early settlers of Darke Co.; he was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Nov. 7, 1823, and was the oldest son of Jacob Dininger, who was born in Germany Sept. 26, 1798; he emigrated to America when 18 years of age, and located in Montgomery Co., Ohio, and, in 1834, came to Darke Co. with his family, and followed farming in this township until his decease, which occurred June 11, 1875. He married Margaret Swank; she was born in Montgomery Co. in 1806, and is now living upon the home farm, where she has resided for forty-five years. John Dininger made his home with his parents until 30 years of age; at the age of 24, he commenced to clear his present place, and has since cleared some sixty-five acres of his home farm, which contains 100 acres, besides upward of one hundred acres in Washington Township, with good farm buildings upon each place. He has taken a deep interest in the cause of religion, having been a member of the Lutheran Church for upward of twenty years, his wife and son also being members of the same church. His marriage with Catherine R. McClure was celebrated Oct. 1, 1857; she was born in Montgomery Co., Aug. 25, 1834; they were the parents of three children—Ira, born Aug. 31, 1858, died Oct. 8, 1879; John L. and Hattie (twins), born March 31, 1864; Hattie died April 2, 1864, and Ira died from quick consumption at the home of his parents, after an illness of one year. Mrs. Dininger was a daughter of George and Maria (Merkles) McClure, who came to Darke Co. in





1843; her father was born in Lancaster Co., Penn., April 23, 1803. and died in Darke Co. in 1870: her mother was born in Berks Co., Penn., March 8, 1812. and died Aug. 25, 1879.

**MICHAEL W. DININGER**, farmer, Sec. 32: P. O. Greenville. The subject of this sketch is a brother of John and Lewis Dininger, who are also mentioned in this work, and a son of Jacob Dininger, who is prominently mentioned in the sketch of John Dininger. Michael W. was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Jan. 29, 1833, and came to Darke Co. with his parents in 1834: his education was obtained in a rude log schoolhouse, and, by hard study, he obtained a fair common-school learning; he assisted his father in agricultural pursuits until 21 years of age, when, on the 21st of September, 1854, he was united in marriage with Mary A. Kerst; she was born in Pennsylvania in 1835: they are the parents of five children, of whom four are now living—Sarah E., Isaac, Mary C. and Margaret R.; the deceased died in infancy. Upon the marriage of Mr. D., he located upon his present place, where he has since lived; his home farm contains 100 acres, with good farm buildings, which he has brought from a wilderness to its present high state of cultivation by his own hard labor. He has been a member of the Lutheran Church for many years, his wife and three of his children being members of different churches.

**LEWIS DININGER**, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 6; P. O. Greenville. This gentleman is a brother of John and Michael W. Dininger, and a son of Jacob Dininger, all of whom are mentioned in this work: Lewis Dininger was born in Greenville Township, Darke Co., Ohio, March 30, 1840, and has always followed agricultural pursuits. At 26 years of age, he was united in marriage with Miss A. E. Kerst, their marriage nuptials being celebrated on the 8th of February, 1866; she was born in German Township, Darke Co., in 1844: six children were the fruits of this union, viz., Flora S., Anna M., Charles, Achie E., Harley and Otto S.; Charlie died at the age of 1 year and 10 months. Mr. Dininger erected his present residence in 1870, where he has since lived, and upon this place he has lived since his birth; he now has 100 acres of land, with good farm buildings. He has been a member of the Lutheran Church since early boyhood, his wife also being a member of the same church.

**J. N. DITMAN**, merchant tailor, Greenville: the subject of this sketch was born in Germany Sept. 25, 1837, and is a son of Henry and Louisa Ditman: our subject emigrated with his parents to this country in 1840, and landed at Baltimore; he was reared in Carroll Co., Md., and removed to Richmond, Ind., in 1863, where he remained for a short time; thence to Connersville in 1864: thence back to Richmond in 1873, and remained about two years, when he moved to Bradford, Ohio, and resided upward of two years, and then came to Greenville and engaged in his business, which he is prosecuting with considerable energy, giving employment to several workmen. He was united in marriage with Sarah Ann Slangen Haupt Feb. 17, 1861: they are the parents of six children, viz.: Mary L., born Nov. 10, 1861; Gertrude E., Dec. 2, 1864; Inez E., Nov. 30, 1866; Laura B., Dec. 1, 1867; J. Willard, Sept. 5, 1872; Maud, March 13, 1877.

**F. M. EIDSON**, tanner and currier, Greenville; born in Preble Co. Ohio, Dec. 14, 1835, where he passed his boyhood days, receiving a common-school education, and also learning his present trade; he came to Darke Co. in 1860, where he has since resided, with the exception of five months which he served in the late rebellion. In 1862, he was united in marriage with Miss Lucetta Kester, and by this union they have four children, viz., Clara D., Boyce G., Virginia K. and George M. Mr. E. has, since a resident of Greenville, been a member of the Board of City Councilmen six years, and is at present President of the Union Public School Board, and is also Vice President of the Home Relief Association. A card of his business will be found in the business directory in another part of this work.

**WILLIAM EMRICK**, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Greenville; born in





Preble Co., Ohio, Nov. 6, 1836; he was a son of Jacob Emrick, who was born in Berks Co., Penn., in the year 1795; he came to Montgomery Co. at an early day, then to Preble Co. in 1830, where his decease occurred May 18, 1872; he was married three times, his second wife being the mother of the subject of our sketch; her maiden name was Elizabeth Detmore, who was born in Virginia in 1810, and died in October, 1838. William Emrick, after obtaining a good common-school education, remained with his father and assisted him in agricultural pursuits until Dec. 29, 1857, when he was united in marriage with Mary J. Collins, who died May 18, 1868, leaving four children, viz., Franklin, Valorous, Elmer E. and Cora; Oct. 15, 1868, he was married to Susanah Emrick; they have two sons by this union—Orpheus and Elihu. In the spring of 1858, he commenced farming in Preble Co., and continued the same until January, 1866, at which date he came to Darke Co., and purchased a farm of 40 acres in Twin Township, which he afterward disposed of, then purchased 80 acres, which he also sold, and, Jan. 26, 1876, purchased the place where he has since lived; he now owns upward of 100 acres, with good farm buildings, under good improvement, located three miles from Greenville. During his residence in Preble Co., he held the office of Township Clerk of Twin Township in the latter county for four years.

JAMES ESTY, retired farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 31; P. O. Greenville; another of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born in the province of New Brunswick Sept. 17, 1814; his father, David Esty, was born in the above province July 31, 1792; he came to Ohio in 1822, and located in August of the same year, having been two months on the way; he engaged in farming and milling until his death, which occurred Nov. 20, 1874; he was married, in New Brunswick, to Ann Knoop, Sept. 30, 1813; she was born March 19, 1792, in New Brunswick; they were the parents of eleven children, all of whom lived to grow up; ten are now living, of whom James Esty is the oldest; Mrs. Esty died Aug. 21, 1873. The Bible from which the above record was copied was purchased by David Esty in 1829, and is now valued very highly as an heirloom by our subject, who came to Miami Co. with his parents in 1822, being then 8 years of age; he was raised to farming and running a saw-mill until Jan. 1, 1842, when he was united in marriage with Jane McDowell; she was born in Franklin Co. Feb. 20, 1817; they have one son by this union—John C., born Dec. 4, 1842. Upon the marriage of Mr. Esty, he commenced farming for himself in Miami Co., and continued there until March 4, 1856, when he located upon Sec. 31 in Greenville Township, where he has since lived; he now has 165 acres of land, with good farm buildings, located two miles from Greenville. John C. Esty, the only son of James and Jane (McDowell) Esty, has always lived upon the home farm, and for the past two years has been a partner with his father in the products of his farm. He married Ellen Greenwalt on Dec. 18, 1873; she was born in Greenville Jan. 5, 1847; they have one child—Eva May, born March 8, 1875.

B. F. FERTICK, dealer in and manufacturer of lumber, Greenville; was born in Wayne Co., Ind., June 28, 1849, where he remained until 1859, when he with his mother moved to Delaware Co., Ind., after which, in 1863, he engaged in school teaching for five successive years, and in 1868 opened a drug store in Parker, Ind., which he continued until 1871, then commenced the retail dry-goods trade which he followed until 1873, when he commenced in his present business, and in 1879 came to this county and located in Greenville, where he has one of the first-class mills located on the side track of the D. & U. R. R., thereby making conveniences of transportation better than any mill in the county; it is valued at about \$5,500. Our subject was united in marriage with Miss Hannah C. Morris, of Randolph Co., Ind., and by this union has two sons—Theodore B., born Nov. 29, 1875, and Hephon, March 14, 1878. Mr. F. is a live, energetic citizen of Greenville.

CHARLES FLETCHER, retired stonecutter, Greenville; one of the old settlers of Darke Co. The subject of this memoir was born in Townsend, Windham Co., Vt., July 20, 1811. His grandfather, Samuel Fletcher, was one of the





generals in the American army during the Revolutionary struggle, and served under the command of Gen. Washington; after the close of the war, he located in the above county, and laid out the village of West Townsend, where he died. The father of Charles Fletcher—Squire Fletcher—was born in West Townsend, and was engaged in merchandise trade where he passed his days, his death occurring about the year 1814. The subject of our sketch was left fatherless when 4 years of age, and made his home with his mother until 9 years old; he then started in life for himself, and lived in various places, and when old enough he learned the stonecutter's trade, and at 19 years of age, he removed to New York, living there one year, then seven years in Erie Co., Penn., and came to Ohio in 1841 and located in Greenville Township, Darke Co. where he engaged in the nursery business and cutting stone, and was the first stonecutter of the place; he continued the above business in Greenville some fifteen years, when he removed to Piqua and resided in Miami Co., Ohio and Clay Co., Ind., being engaged in stonecutting, farming and nursery business, and in 1874 purchased his present place where he has since lived; he has 94 acres under a good state of cultivation which he has made by his hard labor. He was married to Amanda Burns in 1841: she was born in Greenville Township, Darke Co., and was a daughter of Barney Burns, one of the early pioneers who is mentioned in the historical part of this work; the children of Charles and Amanda Fletcher were ten in number, of whom two are deceased, the living are Chester B., Elizabeth, Mary, Charles, John W., Edward F., Emma B., and William; the deceased are Nancy and Newton. Mr. Fletcher also owns 240 acres of land in Adair Co., Ohio, and 290 acres in Nebraska and some town property.

**JAMES A. FLEMING**, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Jaysville. Another of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born in Greenville, Jan. 17, 1832. He is the oldest son of Aaron Fleming, who was born in Butler Co., Ohio, in 1803, and came to Darke Co., with his parents in the year 1816, and was consequently one of the earliest pioneers of Darke Co. He married Rachel Arnold, — 31, 1831; she was born in Warren Co., Ohio, 1810, and came to Darke Co., with her parents in 1819. They were the parents of three children, who lived to grow up—James A., Henry D. and William. Upon the date of the above marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Fleming located upon Sec. 7, Greenville Township, where he had previously purchased 80 acres of land, which was then a howling wilderness, there being no clearing. He then commenced clearing and by his own hard labor succeeded in placing it under a good state of cultivation; there was a log cabin on the land, and they lived in it some twenty years; and at the time of his death he had secured 160 acres in Greenville and Van Buren Townships. He was a Democrat in politics, but never aspired for office. He died Feb. 2, 1877. Mrs. Fleming now lives upon the old homestead, where she has continued to live for a period of nearly one-half a century, and is one of the oldest continued residents in this part of Darke Co., having lived here for a period of sixty years. She has a vivid recollection of the Indians, the wolf, the deer, and the wild game, which at that time was to be had in abundance. Our subject obtained his education in an old log schoolhouse, which, at that time had the improvements of a stove. The seats were split logs with no backs; the writing seats extending around the room, made with planks placed upon wooden pegs inserted in the logs. He now has a residence of forty-eight years upon the place where he lives, having assisted his father in the management of the farm, until the decease of the latter, since which time he has farmed for himself. He now owns 120 acres, 80 acres of which is a part of the original farm purchased by his father about the year 1829, for which he gave two horses valued at \$50 each, and which is now valued at \$60 to \$70 per acre. Mr. Fleming, with his wife, is accorded a place in the front ranks of the early pioneers of Darke Co.

**JESSE FOLKERTH** (deceased). The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was one of the early pioneers of Darke Co. He was born in Montgomery





Co., Ohio, April 6, 1808, and was a son of William Folkerth, who was born in Maryland, and came to Montgomery Co. about the beginning of the present century. In 1815, he came to Darke Co., where his death occurred Aug. 15, 1848. His wife, Maria Bryant, was born in Maryland and died in Darke Co. in 1845. Jesse Folkerth came to Darke Co. with his parents. He assisted his father in agricultural pursuits until Nov. 23, 1837, at which date he was united in marriage with Anna Curtis. She was born in 1818, and died Feb. 21, 1846: five children were the fruits of this union, of whom William, Lorenzo D. and Maria A. now survive. His marriage with Elizabeth Smith was celebrated May 22, 1847. She was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Feb. 8, 1828. They were the parents of six children by this union—Henry C., born April 8, 1849; Jennie C., June 17, 1850; Jesse A., March 19, 1854, died April 5, 1879; John E., Feb. 10, 1857; Eben Lee, Jan. 19, 1860, and one who died in infancy. Of the deceased, Jesse A. had been telegraph operator and station agent of the Pan Handle Railroad at Greenville, for about three years, and, although in the last stages of consumption, he remained at his post of duty until one month previous to his death. He was a young man of great promise, and died in the belief of the promises of his Savior, esteemed and beloved by all who knew him. In the spring of 1838, Jesse Folkerth commenced farming for himself upon the place where he spent the remainder of his days and where his widow with the two unmarried children now reside. He was a man of sterling worth; was, politically, a Whig, until the organization of the Republican party, after which he was a hard worker for the success of the latter. He was a strong champion of the cause of temperance, and did not make use of tobacco in any form. He was a member of the Methodist Church for a period of forty years previous to his death, and lived and died a consistent Christian; his death occurred Sept. 20, 1871. Mrs. Folkerth has been a member of the Methodist Church for upward of thirty-five years. She was a daughter of Timothy T. Smith, a native of New Jersey. He married Anna B. Baum, a native of Kentucky. They came to Darke Co. in 1836. Mr. Smith died in Darke Co. in 1865. Mrs. Smith died Dec. 3, 1873, aged 81 years and 5 months.

ISAAC FUNK, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 3; P. O. Greenville; one of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; born in Adams Co., Penn., Dec. 28, 1810, he was the oldest son of Jacob Funk, who was also born in the same county, in January, 1779, during the Revolutionary struggle; his father was Daniel Funk, born in Lancaster or York Co., about the middle of the seventeenth century; they were the descendants of Martin Funk, one of three brothers, who emigrated from Holland or Germany, in the beginning of the seventeenth century. Our subject was raised upon the farm of his father until about 21 years of age, when he commenced life for himself, and for two years was employed as farm laborer in Adams Co.; he then emigrated to Ohio and located in Warren Co., where he farmed and cleared land, and in 1835, came to Darke Co. and settled on the place where he now lives, and where he has lived, with the exception of four years, for nearly half a century; he still owns the land which he entered in 1835; he has 110 acres in his home farm, which he has secured by his own hard labor and correct business habits. He is a Republican, and while he has not aspired to office, has filled the office of Supervisor and Director of the Dayton & Union Railroad for two years; he has taken a deep interest in the cause of religion and education, having been a member of M. E. Church some forty years, and held the office of Steward and Class Leader, one or both, for thirty-six years. His marriage with Eliza Ann Deardorff was celebrated May 15, 1834; she was born in Warren Co., Ohio, Sept. 29, 1818; she died Feb. 1, 1879, leaving eight children now living, having lost three in infancy, the living are Elizabeth, born Sept. 20, 1836; Daniel D., born Nov. 9, 1840; Allen Wesley, born Oct. 20, 1843; William P., born March 4, 1841; Ancil L., born Dec. 25, 1849; Mary C., born Aug. 1, 1852; Charles E., born March 13, 1855; Laura D., born April 21, 1858. The above children are all members of the M. E. Church; the two youngest make their home with their father. Daniel is





now in business in Greenville; Allen, farming and teaching; William P., blacksmith, at North Star; Ancil, Professor of the College at Red Cloud, Neb.

**CALVIN P. FUNSTON**, farmer; P. O. Greenville; born in Clark Co., Ohio Jan. 11, 1826; he obtained a common-school education, and assisted his father in farming until 20 years of age, at which date his father died, after which, Calvin P., being the oldest son, remained at home and managed the old place for the support of the family until 1863, when he came to Darke Co. and purchased his present place, where he has since lived; he has about fifty acres in his home farm, under a good state of cultivation, with good farm buildings located one mile from Greenville, and valued at upward of \$5,000. Upon April 10, 1861, he was united in marriage with Rachel T. Little; she was born in Clark Co. April 28, 1837; they have no children of their own, but have raised from a youth of 5 years, a promising young man by the name of Charles Bell, who was born Jan. 1, 1861. Mr and Mrs. Funston have treated him as their own child, and have extended to him the benefits and privileges of a liberal education. Mr. and Mrs. Funston are members of the Presbyterian Church, and take a deep interest in the cause of religion.

**DR. ISAAC NEWTON GARD**, physician and surgeon, Greenville; is the oldest continuous resident physician and surgeon of Darke Co.; he was a native of Butler Co., Ohio; born March 20, 1811, and was a son of Stephen and Rachel (Pearce) Gard, both natives of New Jersey, who emigrated to Ohio about the beginning of the present century; Stephen Gard was a Baptist minister, and organized nearly all of the early churches in the Miami Valley, among which was the First Baptist Church at Dayton, and the First Baptist Church of Trenton, Butler Co., over which he presided for a period of upward of half a century; he was twice married; his first wife was the mother of the subject of our sketch, she died in Butler Co., April 1, 1816, aged 36 years; the Rev. Stephen Gard died Aug. 14, 1839; Isaac N. Gard obtained his general education in the common schools, and received his preparatory education at the Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, and graduated from the Ohio Medical College, in Cincinnati, 1831; he then commenced the practice of medicine in Butler Co., and in 1834, located in Greenville, where he has since successfully followed his profession for nearly fifty years; in the early days of the Doctor's locating here the practice of medicine was a work of labor and hardship, the country being sparsely settled, and his practice extending over half a degree of latitude and longitude, the roads being nearly impassable, save by horseback; and in this manner the Doctor made his visits, dispensing his medicine from his saddle-bags; he organized the first medical society of Darke Co., and for many years was President of the same; he also organized the first agricultural society of Darke Co., and was also President of this for several years; he has had many offices of honor and trust thrust upon him, among which we mention the presidency of the Greenville & Miami, now Dayton & Union Railroad, during its construction; in 1841, was elected and represented the counties of Miami, Darke, Mercer and Shelby in the State Legislature; in 1858-59, he represented the counties of Miami, Darke and Shelby in the State Senate; in 1861 or 1862, he was appointed by the Governor of Ohio as one of the Trustees of the State Lunatic Asylum at Dayton, which office he filled some sixteen years; he has almost continually held some office or position of trust, and has in every instance performed his duty with credit to himself and satisfaction to the public. Upon the 6th of January, 1835, he was united in marriage with Lucy Tod, who was born in Kentucky March 20, 1816. They were the parents of five children, viz. Henrietta T., born April 6, 1837, died Aug. 16, 1839; Charles T., born Sept. 30, 1840, died Jan. 4, 1864; Catherine E., Feb. 16, 1843; Mary, March 11, 1850, and Stephen, Jan. 11, 1854.

**D. GLANDER**, retired brewer; Greenville. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born in Germany May 3, 1818, and in 1836 came to America, and to Preble Co., Ohio, where he followed distilling, and in 1877 came to Greenville.





where he engaged in his former business until June, 1879. Mr. G. was united in marriage to Lena Hagar, and by this union they have nine children living.

JOHN V. GORDON, manufacturer, Greenville; was born in Hunterdon Co., N. J., Jan. 21, 1844; was the son of William and Henrietta Gordon, who were born and raised in New Jersey; William was the son of Elias and Frances Gordon; Henrietta was the daughter of John and Rebecca Volk; John, the grandfather, was born in New York, and Rebecca was born in New Jersey. Mr. Gordon, the subject of this sketch, served with his father in the chair and furniture manufacturing business till 21 years of age, and then he entered upon the spoke and hub manufacturing business, and has followed that occupation to the present time. He came to Greenville in September, 1877, and entered upon spoke and hub manufacturing, under the firm name of Finney, Closson & Co., which business has been conducted with great success up to this time.

GREGG BROS., druggists, Matchett's Block, Greenville. There is no department of business, in the mercantile line, wherein the public safety requires so thorough and practical a knowledge in carrying on the same, as in the selection and dispensing of drugs and medicines. We take pleasure in recommending the above firm as thoroughly familiar with the theoretical and practical requirements of safe dispensation of drugs and filling of prescriptions. Their stock is all new, having been bought during the present year, and selected with the greatest care and skill that long practice and knowledge alone can exercise. A card of their business will be found in the business directory of Greenville in another part of this work.

DAVID GRIFFIN, farmer, Sec. 34; P. O. Greenville; another of the old settlers of Darke Co., born in Butler Co., Ohio, Dec. 14, 1808; his grandfather was killed by the Indians, in Kentucky, at an early day; his father, Francis Griffin, was born in Pennsylvania, 1788, and came to Butler Co. about the beginning of the present century, and served in the war of 1812. He married Sarah Holmes; she was in Kentucky in 1790; Mr. Griffin died, in Butler Co., about the year 1844; Mrs. Griffin died, in Indiana, in 1877. Our subject was raised to agricultural pursuits, in Butler Co., until Nov. 4, 1835, when he was married to Mary Ann Conover; she was born in New Jersey Oct. 2, 1811; they were the parents of six children, of whom two are now living, viz.: Amanda, born Feb. 14, 1836, now the wife of Rev. Lewis E. Jones; Ella J., living at home, March 17, 1852. The deceased were Francis, born Nov. 3, 1837, died Nov. 7, 1837; Emeline, born Dec. 13, 1838, died Jan. 11, 1879; Francis E., born Nov. 21, 1844, died Feb. 9, 1845; Charles E., born May 31, 1849, died Sept. 21, 1850. After the marriage of Mr. Griffin, he followed farming in Butler and Montgomery Cos., until 1857, when he came to Darke Co. and purchased his present place, where he has since lived; he has 160 acres upon his home farm with good farm buildings, located one-half mile from the city of Greenville. Mr. and Mrs. Griffin, with both of their daughters, are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. G., though in the 72d year of his age, attends to the light duties and labors of his farm.

DANIEL GRUBS, grain-dealer, Greenville, firm of Zimmerman & Grubs, grain merchants. The subject of this memoir is a native of Montgomery Co., Ohio; he was born Feb. 25, 1833; his early occupation was that of a farmer's son; his father died when our subject was but 16 years of age; he then lived with his mother until 27 years of age, when, in 1860, he was united in marriage with Katie Denise, a native of the same county; they have one child, Edgar A., now in his 21st year, and a graduate of the Cincinnati Commercial College, and is a bookkeeper for the above firm, his ability to fill the above position being beyond the average. Upon the marriage of Mr. Grubs, he continued to live in Montgomery Co. for three years, when he removed to Preble Co. and continued farming until 1874, when he located in Greenville, and, in 1876, associated with the above gentleman, since which time they have done business under the above firm name.





They are largely engaged in buying and shipping grain to the Eastern markets. A card of their business appears in the business directory of Greenville.

**JOHN GUNTRUM**, farmer and brick manufacturer ; P. O. Greenville. The subject of this memoir is a native of this county, born in 1839, within half a mile of where he now resides ; he is youngest son and child of John Guntrum, Sr., who was a native of Pennsylvania and emigrated to this county in 1837, and located on the farm where our subject was born and where he remained till his death. Mr. Guntrum, Sr., celebrated his marriage in his native State with Martha Ginridge ; they were the parents of ten children, two sons and eight daughters, three of whom are deceased. He departed this life in 1868 ; his wife survived him until Feb. 13, 1873, when she, too, passed away. Thus we record the death of two more esteemed citizens of Darke Co. ; their life work done, they passed peacefully away, leaving a large circle of acquaintances and a loving family of children to mourn their departure and revere their memory. The subject of our sketch was raised a tiller of soil, assisting in the duties of the farm till he was 22 years of age, at which time he began life for himself, cultivating his father's farm on the shares ; the duty of taking care of his parents fell to his lot ; this filial duty he discharged faithfully till their death. He was united in marriage to Rebecca Jeamison Feb. 19, 1863 ; she is also a native of this township and comes of an early pioneer family. Our subject moved to the place where he now resides about seven years ago ; he is now, in addition to his farming, engaged in the manufacturing of brick ; in this business his motto is excellence in quality, integrity in transactions and low prices. Mr. and Mrs. Guntrum are the parents of six children, all living—Willie, born in 1863 ; Barbara, 1865 ; Mary E., 1868 ; Flora and Laura (twins), 1872, and Hester in 1878.

**AUGUST GUTHEIL**, restaurant and dealer in wines, liquors, cigars, etc., Greenville ; born in Bavaria, Germany, on the 22d of April, 1834 ; he received a good education in German, and, from 14 to 18 years of age, assisted his father in the tanning business, as well as hotel-keeping and farming ; at the latter age, he emigrated to America, landing in New York March 30, 1852, coming directly to Cincinnati, thence to Dayton, Ohio, where he followed the butchering business one year ; thence to Miamisburg, and engaged in the tanning business until 1856, at which date he came to Greenville, and, after working one year as tanner, he engaged in the saloon and restaurant business, which he has since successfully followed, and is the oldest continuous gentleman in his business in the city of Greenville. In 1865, he made a tour over his native country, visiting the scenes of his childhood, this trip consuming some six months, during which time his business was conducted by his brother-in-law, John King. Mr. Gutheil is a gentleman of genial disposition and of very pleasing address. In 1876, he was elected as one of the Trustees of Greenville Township, which office he held for three years ; during the years 1878 and 1879, he was one of the Democratic Central Committee of Darke County. Upon arriving in New York, he came across the Alleghany Mountains by mule teams, thence down the canal to Pittsburgh, and thence down the river to Cincinnati. His marriage with Fredericka Limkult was celebrated Feb. 28, 1856 ; she was born in Bavaria, Germany, and came to America in 1830 ; her maiden name was Rolhhaas ; they have two sons and one daughter—Ona J., Otto and Julius D. Mrs. Gutheil has one child by her former husband, viz., Amelia Limkult.

**AMOS HAHN**, Treasurer of Darke County, Greenville. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch is the present efficient Treasurer of Darke Co. ; he was born in Columbiana Co., Ohio, Feb. 1, 1818 ; his parents, Samuel and Hannah Hahn, are natives of Frederick Co., Md. ; his father was born March 9, 1791, his mother in 1795, and departed this life in 1861 ; Mr. Hahn, Sr. is still living, and resides with his son Amos ; they were the parents of ten children, of whom six are now living. Our subject was reared on the farm, but followed carpentering for a number of years, when he turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, and for





sixteen years did business in Gettysburg; his long and active business career has eminently fitted him for the responsible position of honor and trust he holds, as a gift from the people of the county. His marriage with Catherine Finrock was consummated Oct. 3, 1843; she was the daughter of Peter and Mary Finrock, who were natives of Pennsylvania, now deceased; Mr. and Mrs. Hahn are the parents of three children, viz., Clement C., born Nov. 16, 1845; Albert J., April 23, 1847; Luella M., in September, 1857; Clement was united in marriage with Nannie Compton Oct. 7, 1868; Albert J. consummated his marriage with Virginia Johnson Dec. 22, 1874; Luella celebrated her marriage with W. D. Johns March 28, 1877.

**JACOB HALDERMAN**, farmer: P. O. Greenville. The subject of this memoir may be classed among the self-made men of Darke Co.; he was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Oct. 25, 1837; he was a son of John Halderman, who was born in Lancaster Co., Penn., and came to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1836, where his death occurred in 1840. He married Hannah Cook, a native of Pennsylvania; she died in Illinois, in December, 1875. Jacob Halderman was thrown upon his resources when 6 years of age, and made his home among friends and strangers, until old enough to work and receive wages; at 18 years of age, he learned the trade of carpenter, which he followed seven years; in 1860, he located upon his present place, where he has since lived; he has 220 acres, with good farm buildings, which he has secured by his own hard labor and correct business habits, and has by the above means placed himself among the large landholders and successful farmers of Darke Co.; the perseverance and energy displayed by Mr. H. to accomplish what he has attained are well worthy of example by the young men of the present day. He has been twice married; his first wife was Mary Baker, to whom he was married Dec. 22, 1859; she was born in Darke Co. in 1841, and died December, 1875, leaving six children, having lost one by death; the living are Leoti, born Aug. 22, 1861; Alice, Feb. 10, 1863; Herschel V., Feb. 2, 1865; Idabird, Jan. 6, 1868; Elnora, July 2, 1870; Pearl, Dec. 30, 1872. Upon the 11th of October, 1877, he was united in marriage with Francis Helm, who was born in Darke Co., Sept. 13, 1845; they have one child—Rolly, born Sept. 4, 1878. Mrs. Halderman was a daughter of Eli Helm, one of our early pioneers of 1834 or 1835; he was born in Pennsylvania, and died in Darke Co., in October, 1874. He married Catherine Zimmerman, who is now living in Greenville. Mr. Halderman is Democratic in politics, and labors for the success of his party; has been Township Trustee two years, which office he filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to the people.

**JOHN W. HALL**, firm of Hime & Hall, livery, feed and sale stable, northeast of public square, also, of firm of Hall & Co., importers and breeders of French, Norman and Clydesdale horses. The above gentlemen is another of the old settlers, being born in Greenville Township May 4, 1834, and is a son of James Hall, who at a very early day came from South Carolina to Miami Co.; thence to Darke Co., among the early settlers; he was engaged in contracting and building to a certain extent; he built the first letter boxes for the post office of Greenville, selecting at that time box Number 96, which box has always been retained in the family, and is now the box of John W. Our subject continued farming in Darke Co. until 1855, when he went to Logan Co., Ill., and followed farming and stock-raising until 1861, at which date he returned to Darke Co. and continued the same business until 1875, when he was elected Sheriff of Darke Co., re-elected in 1877, serving until January, 1880, when, upon the expiration of his office, he associated with Mr. Hime in the above business; in 1874, he associated with Harrod Mills and James Esty in the stock business, under the firm name of Hall & Co., which firm still exists. His marriage with Frances D. Carnahan was celebrated Aug. 29, 1854; she is a native of Darke Co.; they have eight children—James M., Isaac W., Sarah C., Elias C., Idela May, Charles C., Julia E., Rollie S.

**WILLIAM SANFORD HARPER**, the subject of this sketch, was born in





Trumbull Co., Ohio, July 11, 1810; moved with his mother to Butler Co., Ohio, in the spring of 1815, and from there to Darke Co., Ohio, in 1823, with his step-father, B. Roll, and settled on a small farm on the Greenville & West Milton road, four miles southeast of Greenville, there being no house southeast on said road for nine miles; wolves, deer and smaller animals were numerous in the unoccupied forests, at that time; schools were few and far between. The subject of this sketch acquired, in addition to a common school education, practical surveying. He was married, in 1832, to Delila, daughter of William Arnold, and in 1833, moved into the green forest to open up a farm; for about twenty years, taught school in the winter and cleared ground and farmed in the warm season. In 1852, he was elected County Surveyor, and filled that office as principal and deputy for about ten years, and unofficially for about the same length of time, and yet, at his advanced age, works at civil engineering, when called on. From a youth, he was of a sober, pious turn of mind, and made a profession of Christianity in 1833, and became a member of the Christian Church; his zeal for the cause of Christ has steadily increased as he has become better acquainted with the sacred Scriptures; he sometimes amuses himself by writing articles for our secular journals, signing them W. S. H.; he is also an ardent advocate of temperance, of the prohibition class. His sons, William Marion and John Harper, are prominent business men in Greenville; in the year 1860, they erected a business house on Broadway, where they are still engaged in business; the former in the jewelry trade, and the latter in the photographic art. Their uniform courteous, honorable, obliging habits have made for them many friends.

**MANNING F. HART**, retired, contractor and merchant, Greenville. Among the early pioneers of Darke Co., the gentleman whose name heads this sketch is accorded a place in the front ranks; he was born in Hampshire Co., W. Va., April 7, 1821, and is a son of Dr. William Hart, a native of Berks Co., Penn. He was married, in Pennsylvania, to Elizabeth Pettit, also a native of the same State; they were also among the early settlers of Darke Co., locating in Adams Township in 1839, with three sons and three daughters; about the year 1846, he, with his family, located in Greenville; he was a physician, and followed his profession until his decease, which occurred after a short residence in Greenville. Our subject came to this county with the family in 1839, and the following ten years his residence was divided between Darke and Montgomery Cos.; in 1849, he located permanently here, and followed the occupation of contractor and builder for several years; he then engaged in the grocery and provision trade until 1879, since which time he has been retired from active business. He has been twice married; his first wife was Mary Hoover; their marriage was celebrated in 1844; one son and two daughters were the fruits of this union, all deceased; she died in 1849; his marriage nuptials with Rebecca A. Knoop were celebrated in 1850; she was born in Miami Co.; they were the parents of five children, of whom two are deceased; the living are Ralph B., Abraham Lincoln and Carrie E., all residing in Greenville.

**JONAS HARTZELL**, retired farmer; P. O. Greenville; another of the old settlers of Darke Co., born in Adams Co., Penn., May 10, 1803; he was one of six brothers, who came to Darke Co. between the periods of 1833 and 1836; Jonas located upon Sec. 8, Greenville Township, where he has since lived—a period of nearly half a century; he purchased 120 acres, and afterward added until he had accumulated 400 acres; he devoted his attention to farming until about the year 1865, when he retired from active labor; during the past three years, he has been confined to the house by sickness, and has been kindly cared for by his sons Charles and Jonas, who are managing the home farm. Jonas Hartzell, Sr., and Elizabeth Welty were united in marriage, in Pennsylvania, Feb. 12, 1829; she was born in Pennsylvania Aug. 9, 1807; they had twelve children, of whom ten are now living, viz.: Louisa J., born March 11, 1830; William, born March 3, 1832, died in infancy; Elizabeth and Catherine (twins), born Feb. 9, 1834; Sarah





Ann, born Nov. 20, 1836; Charles Wesley and Edward Spencer (twins), born Sept. 1, 1831; Jonas W., born May 2, 1841; Hannah M., born March 18, 1843; Lauretta D., born Feb. 23, 1845; James, born April 28, 1847, and one who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Hartzell have been members of the Methodist Church for a period of thirty years. Of the above children, Charles Wesley may be considered one of the old settlers, having always lived upon the home farm, upon which he was born in 1839; he was married, March 7, 1867, to Sarah E. Shephard; she was born in Twin Township, Darke Co., March 20, 1846; they had four children by this union—Jonas Elmer, Lillian R., John H. and Olive M.; the latter is deceased.

GEORGE HARTZELL, farmer; P. O. Greenville; the subject of this sketch is another of our old settlers; he was born in Adams Co., Penn., Oct. 3, 1835, and was the oldest son of Philip Hartzell, who was born in the year 1811, in the above county and State; in 1836, he came to Darke Co. and in 1838, purchased several lots in Beamsville, and erected the second house of the place; here he followed carpentering, wagon-making, cabinet-making and school-teaching for ten years; he was the first Postmaster of the town, which office he held for ten years, as well as Justice of the Peace two terms; he was a great champion of the cause of temperance—is probably entitled to the honor of putting up the first building ever erected in Darke Co. without the use of intoxicating liquor; he died upon his farm two miles north of Greenville, in April, 1873. He married Julia Harman, who was born in 1810 or 1811, who is now residing in Greenville. George Hartzell assisted his father, until May 12, 1859, when he was united in marriage with Lucy A. Fetter; she was born in Darke Co. June 8, 1838; they were the parents of ten children—Hollis, Clarinda M., Luella M., P. Harman, Viola E., George F., Julia and John C., twins (John C. died Oct. 12, 1872), Henrietta and Mamie. Mrs. Hartzell was a daughter of John Fetter, who came from Lebanon Co., Penn., to Darke Co. in 1836; he died February, 1874. He married Catherine Bowman, also a native of Pennsylvania; she died in Darke Co., in July, 1862. Since the marriage of Mr. Hartzell, he has been engaged in carpentering, milling and farming, and has a small farm, one mile from Greenville. His father was one of six brothers, who came to Darke Co.—Henry, George and Jeremiah came in 1833; Philip and Jonas in 1836, and Daniel probably in 1837 or 1838; of the above, Jonas and Daniel now survive.

PHILIP S. HARTZELL, Sec. 12; P. O. Pikeville; one of the old settlers of this county; born in Greenville Township June 6, 1847; he was a son of George Hartzell, who was born in Adams Co., Penn., July 4, 1813; he was one of the early settlers of Darke Co., locating upon Sec. 12, Greenville Township in 1833; he entered eighty acres of Government land, and purchased the same amount, and afterward added by purchase, until he owned 240 acres in his home farm, and here he lived until his death, which occurred Oct. 22, 1857. He married Rachel Schriver in 1840; she was born in Pennsylvania, Jan. 31, 1813; they were the parents of six children, of whom five lived to grow up; Mrs. Hartzell is now living with Philip S., and at 67 years of age, is in possession of all her faculties, with the exception of failing eyesight. After the death of Mr. Hartzell, Philip S. lived with his mother on the old homestead, until 26 years of age, when he associated with his brother, William Hartzell, in 1870, and followed farming together until 1875, upon the old farm, and in 1877 Philip S. purchased the shares of his brother upon the homestead, where he has continued farming, having 105 acres. He has given his attention to the raising of corn and wheat; he is one of the industrious, persevering and hard-working citizens, and during the past two years has paid off indebtedness on his place to the amount of \$2,400; had previously paid upward of \$5,500. His marriage with Susan R. Baumbaugh was celebrated June, 1870; she was born April 29, 1847, in Maryland, and emigrated to Ohio with her parents, in 1862. They were the parents of four children, all of whom died in infancy.





**P. H. HARTZELL**, teacher, Greenville; is a son of Philip Hartzell, Sr., a native of Pennsylvania, who came to this county in the early pioneer days, and lived in the county until his decease, which occurred in April, 1878; the subject of this sketch was born in this county Nov. 6, 1846, and lived with his parents until several years after his majority; he then taught school during the winter seasons and worked at carpentering during the summer for ten years. He married Miss Alice M. Butt, a daughter of John K. Butt, whose biography appears in this work; she was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, in February, 1852; they were married Dec. 22, 1872, and have four children, two boys and two girls, viz., John Ollie, Forest Herbert, Cordie May and Alice Lanessa.

**C. W. HARTZELL**, farmer; P. O. Greenville.

**SAMUEL HEFFNER**, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 32; P. O. Greenville; another of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born in Berks Co., Penn., Oct. 30, 1818; he was a son of Jacob Heffner, who was born in the above county, and came to Darke Co. in 1857, and located in Neave Township; he died in Greenville Township, Darke Co., about the year 1867; our subject was brought up to agricultural pursuits in Pennsylvania until 18 years of age, when he learned and worked at the carpenter trade in Pennsylvania until 1848; he then emigrated to Ohio and located in Butler Co., and, in 1849, came to Darke Co., and, after a residence of two years in German Township, removed upon his present place, where he has lived for a period of thirty years; upon locating here, there were but 40 acres cleared; he has since cleared 80 acres and brought it to a good state of cultivation by his own hard labor, and now owns 122 acres of good land, with good farm buildings; he has also three acres in Hill Grove, the whole being valued at upward of \$10,000. Mr. Heffner commenced here with no capital save a strong arm and willing hand, and has accumulated all the above property by his energy and industry, and has, by the above means, placed himself among the large land-holders and successful farmers of Darke Co. In October, 1850, he was united in marriage with Dorothea Dininger; she was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Jan. 25, 1838; they were the parents of six children, viz.: Sarah E., born Nov. 6, 1851; Lewis C., Jan. 11, 1854, died Jan. 22, 1854; Mary S., born July 19, 1855; Amanda L., Dec. 28, 1859; Samuel, Oct. 15, 1862, and Jacob, born Dec. 20, 1866; Mrs. Heffner is a daughter of Jacob Dininger, one of the early pioneers of Darke Co., who located here in the spring of 1834. Mr. and Mrs. H., with four of their children, are members of the Lutheran Church.

**WILLIAM HEFFNER**, farmer; P. O. Greenville; the subject of this memoir was born in Berks Co., Penn., in the year 1824, and is a son of Jacob and Eliza Heffner, who came to Darke Co. in 1853, and settled in Greenville Township; William Heffner's early life was that of a farmer's son, being raised to agricultural pursuits, his education being mostly confined to the common schools. In the year 1840, his marriage with Eliza M. Hinkle was celebrated in Cumberland Co., Penn.; they have three children by this union, viz., Jacob, William and Nason. Mr. Heffner resides upon Sec. 9, this township, where he is engaged in agricultural pursuits; he came to this county in 1853, and has been a resident for upward of a quarter of a century.

**CLARK HENKLE**, farmer, Sec. 16; P. O. Greenville; born in Springfield Clarke Co., Ohio, Nov. 6, 1837; his father, Silas Henkle, was born in Virginia and came to Clarke Co. at an early day; he died in August, 1840. He married Margaret Millholland, who was born in Ohio, and died in Clarke Co. June 13, 1860, after the death of his father, he lived with his mother until 10 years of age, and the following seven years lived with an uncle, after which he removed upon the home farm with his mother, and remained there some two years after her death. Aug. 14, 1862, he enlisted as private in the 94th O. V. I.; he was in many severe battles, among which we mention Perryville, Stone River, Hoover's Gap, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Buzzard's Roost, Resaca, Pumpkin Vine Creek, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, siege and capture of Atlanta.





the following winter was on detailed duty at Chattanooga, buying up supply trains, and, in the spring of 1865, joined the main army of Sherman in North Carolina, and was with the above army at the surrender of Johnson; he then marched through Richmond to Washington, and after the grand review of the army he was mustered out of service and received his discharge at Camp Chase June 14, 1865, having served in the Union army nearly three years; he took part in every battle in which the regiment was engaged excepting two, when he was on detailed duty; after receiving his discharge, he returned to Clarke Co., and, in the spring of 1869, came to Darke Co., and located upon his present place, where he has since lived; he has a nice farm of 100 acres, with good farm buildings. His marriage with Mary S. Forgy was celebrated March 31, 1869; she was born in Clarke Co., Ohio, July 4, 1837; they were the parents of three children—Cora M., Willie Otho and Mary Elsie; all died in infancy.

**DANIEL HENNE**, dealer in grain and seeds, Greenville. The subject of this sketch was born in Mindersbach Oberamt Nagold Kinigreich, Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1839, where he attended school until 14 years of age, obtaining a good education in German; he then learned the milling trade, which he followed four years, when he emigrated to America, landing in New York in 1857; coming directly West, he located in Hamilton, Ohio, and remained until 1863, at which date he made a two-years visit to his native country; returning in 1865, he again located in Hamilton, and was employed as farm laborer by the month, for one year; and in the latter part of 1866, came to Greenville, and associated in the milling and grain business under the firm name of Poak & Henne, and has since successfully followed the above business, the past ten years doing business alone; he makes a specialty of buying and shipping grain to the Eastern market; his shipments reaching 200,000 bushels in a single season. His marriage with Anna M. Weithbrecht was celebrated in Greenville Feb. 17, 1867; she was born in Germany, and emigrated with her parents to America, when but 1 year of age; they have three children by this union—Rosenia Gertrude, Jacob Frederick and Daniel. In 1878, he was elected Township Treasurer, which office he now holds, being re-elected in 1879; he is also Secretary of the Board of Education, of Greenville. A business card will be found in the business directory of Greenville in this work.

**D. S. HIME**, firm of Hime & Snyder, livery, feed and sale stable; another old settler of Darke Co., Ohio; born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1835; he is a son of Daniel Hime, who was a native of Pennsylvania, and came to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1838, and located in the northwest part of Greenville Township; he died in Washington Township in 1875. The subject of this sketch was raised to agricultural pursuits until 11 years of age, when he was apprenticed to learn the shoemaker's trade for seven years, after which, he remained upon the home farm, and in 1858, was united in marriage with Amelia D. Martin, of Greenville; she was born in Miami Co.; they have two children—Adelia Bell and Sarah Catherine. He purchased his home farm in 1864, and disposed of the same about the year 1870; he then came to Greenville, where he has since lived.

**ABSALOM HOFFERT**, farmer and stock-raiser. Sec. 36; P. O. Greenville. The subject of this memoir was born in Rush Creek Township, Fairfield Co., Ohio, Jan. 25, 1827; he was a son of Solomon Hoffert, who was probably born in Pennsylvania in 1795, and came to Ohio when quite young and located in Fairfield Co., where his death occurred April 4, 1876, at the advanced age of 91 years. He married Margaret Hendricks, who was born in 1790, and died in 1861, aged 71 years; they were the parents of ten children, of whom eight are now living. Our subject obtained a common-school education in his youth, and was raised to agricultural pursuits until June 5, 1851, when he was united in marriage with Nancy Fantz; she was born in Fairfield Co., Ohio, Nov. 20, 1832; they were the parents of five children, viz.: Elizabeth, now Mrs. James Westfall, of Brown Township, born June 4, 1852; Matilda, born May 8, 1855, died April 23, 1858; Ellen, born April 25, 1857, now Mrs. Wesley Slade, Neave Township; Margaret, born March





20, 1859, now Mrs. Charles Fletcher, of Miami Co.; Emma F., born Feb. 8, 1862, now Mrs. George Hathway, living upon the home farm. Mrs. Hoffert was a daughter of Michael Fantz, who was born in Baden, Germany, in 1792, and came to America in 1819: he died in Hocking Co., Ohio, May 23, 1863, aged 71 years 5 months and 19 days. He married Elizabeth Stacer; she was also born in Baden, Germany, in 1791, and died in Fairfield Co., Ohio, Sept. 10, 1860, aged 69 years 4 months and 28 days. Upon the marriage of Mr. Hoffert, he commenced farming for himself, which business he followed in Hocking and Fairfield Cos. until April, 1864, when he disposed of his property in Fairfield Co., and purchased 40 acres in Darke Co., and located upon his present place where he has since lived; he now owns 47 acres upon his home place, located less than a mile and a half from Greenville. He with his wife and two children are members of the Reformed Church, and one daughter a member of the Church of the United Brethren, Mr. and Mrs. Hoffert having been members for the past ten years.

MOSES HUHNS, clothier and merchant tailor, was born in Grand Duchy Saxony, Germany, May 13, 1835, and is a son of L. and Hannah Huhn, natives of the same place; his father was born in 1784, and departed this life in 1853, aged 67 years; his mother was born in 1800, and is still living in Germany, aged 50 years. Our subject emigrated to America in 1851, and landed in New York, his voyage occupying sixty-three days; he repaired to St. Joseph, Mo., immediately, and remained there for seven years, engaged as salesman, and then came to Greenville, where he was employed as salesman for Warring Bros., which position he held for four years; he then embarked in business for himself, and is one of Greenville's successful business men; he carries a full and complete stock in his line, consisting of men's, boys' and children's clothing, and does a general merchant tailoring business. He is an honorable member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows' organizations, and his motto is "onward and upward."

WILLIAM HUNTER, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Ansonia; another of the old residents of Darke Co.; born in Greenville Township April 26, 1831; he was the oldest son of William F. Hunter, who was born in Warren Co., Ohio, Jan. 2, 1801; he was one of the early settlers of Darke Co., locating here about the year 1825; he was married in Darke Co. to Elizabeth Earheart; she was born in Virginia April 14, 1804, and came to Darke Co. with her parents when quite young, making the journey on horseback. They were the parents of three sons and four daughters, of whom all are living but one son. Mr. Hunter died Sept. 26, 1840, Mrs. Hunter died May 11, 1853, upon the old homestead; William Hunter has lived upon the homestead and upon the place where he was born for nearly half a century, his mother making her home with him until her decease; the log house in which all the family was born is now standing upon the place where it has stood for a period of fifty years. The nuptials of William Hunter and Mary Shultz were celebrated June 15, 1854; she was born in Dauphin Co., Penn., July 1, 1834; she was a daughter of George Shultz, who emigrated from Pennsylvania to Warren Co., and then to Darke Co., about the year 1846; the children of William and Mary (Shultz) Hunter were nine in number, of whom eight are now living, viz., Thomas H., William S., Charles E., Edmond A., Mary E., John L., Prudence O., David D.; the deceased, Ada, died April 22, 1877.

DANIEL JAMISON, manufacturer of and dealer in brick; P. O. Greenville; the subject of this memoir was born in Darke Co., Sept. 8, 1849, where he has since resided, and where he obtained a common-school education, and at the age of 21 commenced life for himself, and has since, by his own exertion, accumulated a liberal amount of means for a person of his age.

LEWIS E. JONES, Presbyterian minister, Sec. 4. The subject of this sketch was born in Cardiganshire, Great Britain, March 23, 1834; he was engaged in the manufacture of iron at Merthyr Tydvyl until 20 years of age, when he emigrated to America, landing in New York May 17, 1855; he received a good





common-school education in Great Britain: his preparatory education being received at the Herron Seminary, at Cincinnati, he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, Ohio, in 1859, pursuing his studies here until the spring of 1861, and, in the fall of the same year, he entered the Lane Theological Seminary at Cincinnati, from which he graduated in 1864; he then presided as Pastor over the Presbyterian Church of Greenville, for one year, during which time he united the Old and New School Presbyterian Churches by his efforts. During the fall of 1864 and the early part of the winter of 1865, he was upon the battle-fields of Tennessee, administering to the wants of our Union patriots, having been appointed by the Christian Commission. In the spring of 1865, he was selected, in response to the call of President Johnson, to preach a sermon to a union of churches at Greenville, in commemoration of the death of the lamented Lincoln. From 1865 to 1867, he presided over the Presbyterian Church at Tippecanoe City; then three years at Rising Sun, Ind.; thence to Reynoldsburg until 1861; thence to Edgar Co., Ill., where he remained until 1876, when he returned to his present place, and, on account of ill health, retired from the ministry until the spring of 1878, when he accepted a call as Pastor of State supply of the Presbyterian Church at Gettysburg, which position he now holds. Upon locating here in 1865, he possessed very little property, save his valuable library. His residence is located one and one-fourth miles from Greenville. On the 20th of September, 1865, he was united in marriage with Amanda Griffin; she was born in Butler Co., Ohio, Feb. 14, 1836; she is the oldest daughter of David Griffin, who located in Darke Co. in 1856.

SWAN JUDY, attorney at law, Greenville. The subject of this biography was born in a rude log cabin on the farm of his grandfather Isaac Wilson, about seven miles west of Springfield, Clark Co., Ohio, on Dec. 7, 1851; he is the second son of Samuel H. and Lydia Judy, who were the parents of eleven children, seven of whom are living; while on the farm, our subject was sent to school as much as his tender years and delicate health would permit; his parents, though in limited circumstances, decided that the education for the children was of more importance than getting money, and in 1860 moved to the village of Enon, two miles distant, where the schools were convenient and better; here young Judy availed himself of school privileges as much as possible considering his rather feeble constitution, devoting a goodly portion of his time during vacation to his books; in 1864, his father felt obliged to return to the farm where young Judy's services were required in the duties incidental to boyhood's farm life; he had, however, acquired a thirst for knowledge, and not believing himself designed for husbandry, he, in company with his elder brother, Benj. F. Judy, returned to Enon and arranged with the Board of Education to again attend school, which he did during the school session, also studying nights and mornings, besides doing chores; during the summer season, he would raise truck, the proceeds from the sale of which he bought books and paid tuition; as he grew older, his health improved, and his desire for knowledge increased, so much so that he would take his book to the field and study during the moments of resting from his labors; in the spring of 1868, his parents moved to Greenville, near which place they now reside, bringing young Judy with them; here he entered the public schools, and in 1869, was granted a teacher's certificate; at this time, the desire of his life to become a lawyer impelled him to begin the study of law, which he did under Judge Wm. Allen, of Greenville, though only at such times as he could spare from his other labors, which latter were required in obtaining a livelihood; during the winter of 1869 and spring of 1870, he taught a school about two miles north of Greenville, continuing the study of law during his otherwise leisure hours; at the close of his school, he went on the farm, raised corn and fattened hogs; in 1870, he engaged with Alexander Wilson, a cousin, of Madison Co. to feed cattle; in 1871, he was taken into partnership with Mr. Wilson in stock-dealing, which was continued until 1872, thereby making sufficient money to pay for a course in law at the university at Ann Arbor, Mich., which institution he entered and graduated on the 24th of March, 1875; he was





soon after admitted to the bar to practice in Ohio, and shortly thereafter entered into partnership with Michael Spayd, deceased, and continued in practice with him until the fall of 1875, when the partnership was dissolved, and he went South visiting several of the southern cities, but concluding the South was not the part of the United States in which he desired to locate for the purpose of practicing law, returned to Greenville in the spring of 1876; after returning, he managed an important lawsuit for his parents, in which he was successful; his parents then moving to Bradford Junction, he went with them, and, while there, made no effort to procure business in his profession, but as it became known that he was a disciple of Blackstone, a demand was soon made for his services, and he did quite an extensive business during the year or more he remained, though he opened no office; in 1877, he with his parents returned to the farm near Greenville, and soon after he opened an office in the latter city, where he has since been practicing. On Feb. 27, 1879, he was married at Ansonia by Rev. Colgan, a M. E. minister, to Lilly May Bertch, youngest child and daughter of Dr. Daniel and Almira Bertch, formerly of Auglaize Co. In the month of February, 1880, he and his wife united themselves with the Christian Church of Greenville.

J. C. KATZENBERGER, retired; P. O. Greenville; was born in Baden Germany, July 23, 1828; he received a good education in his native country, and graduated from the College of Baden; he, with his father and brothers, was in the revolution of 1848, after which he came to America, landing in New York in 1850; in August of the same year, he located in this township, and for two years was engaged in farming; in 1852, he purchased an interest in the Greenville Brewery; two years later, he purchased his partner's interest, and successfully followed the above business until 1868, at which date he disposed of his interest and purchased his present place: he has 113 acres, located one mile from Greenville, under a good state of cultivation; his brick bank barn was erected by him in 1873, at a cost of upward of \$4,000, and is probably the best barn in Darke Co. He is a strong Republican, and is the first German ever nominated for office on the county ticket. On the 3d of September, 1854, he was united in marriage with Kate Ashman; she was born in this township June 15, 1837; they have ten children now living, viz., Augustus H., born Aug. 18, 1856; Ella J., Dec. 21, 1859; Anna C., Jan. 6, 1862; Leopold H., Feb. 15, 1866; Albert R., Feb. 16, 1868; Louisa M., March 10, 1870; Joseph C., Aug. 10, 1872; Ona M., Jan. 18, 1875; Oscar S., March 8, 1877, and an infant born March 6, 1879. Mrs. Katzenberger is a daughter of Peter Ashman, who was one of the early pioneers of Darke Co.

GUSTAVUS A. KATZENBERGER, of the firm of Katzenberger Brothers-grocers, fishing and hunting tackle a specialty, Greenville. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born in Germany June 13, 1830, and is a son of Joseph and Margaret Katzenberger, natives of the same place; his father was born Aug. 27, 1788, and died Dec. 12, 1852; his mother was born in 1798, and departed this life in 1872. Our subject emigrated to America in 1850, landing in New York, after a tedious voyage of forty-seven days; he arrived in Greenville Aug. 24, 1850, and settled on a farm in Greenville Township, where he remained for three years, when, tiring of rural pursuits, he engaged with John Hufnagle as salesman, which position he held for three months, when he embarked in business for himself July 27, 1853; in 1858, he visited his native place, and, after spending a short time among relatives and friends, and looking over the scenes of his youth, he departed for his adopted home. Charles L., member of the above firm, was born in Germany March 14, 1834; he emigrated to America in 1854, and, after a long and wearisome voyage of sixty-three days, reached the docks of New York; upon landing, he came directly to Greenville, where he was employed by his brother as salesman till 1861; he then became a partner of his brother Joseph, and together did business for seven years, when he became a partner with Andy Weinbrecht in the grocery business, which partnership existed three years; selling out, he





entered into a partnership with his brother Gustavus, which constitutes the present firm. His marriage with Elizabeth Ashman was celebrated in 1862, and to their union two children were given—George and Mary; the latter is deceased: Mrs. K. departed this life in 1868. Mr. K. has made three trips to his native land—the first in 1857, the second in 1868, and the third in 1877; thus he has crossed the ocean seven times.

**J. F. KAUFFMAN**, farmer, Sec. 11; P. O. Greenville: born in Cleveland, Ohio, Oct. 12, 1830. He was a son of John P. Kauffman, who was born in Germany May 14, 1790, and emigrated to America in 1830, and located in Cleveland; then to Columbus, and from there to Warren and Greene Cos., and in 1863 or 1864, came to Darke Co., and during the last three years of his life lived with his son. He died March 15, 1878. He was married in Germany to Catherine M. Klineburgh. She was born Feb. 10, 1793; she died March 12, 1859. The subject of this sketch lived with his father until 21 years of age, when he commenced for himself, and, in 1862, came to Darke Co. and purchased his present place of 30 acres, where he has since lived. His marriage with Rachel H. Stewart was celebrated Nov. 17, 1853. She died March 8, 1865. They had two children, Isaiah, born Oct. 24, 1857, and died in infancy; Ida Bell, born Feb. 21, 1862, now living at home.

**CHARLES F. KEMPER**, Catholic priest, Greenville: was born in Prussia on the Rhine, July 6, 1851, and is a son of John and Catherine Kemper, natives of the same place. His father died in Germany, in 1856. His mother at present resides in Dayton. Our subject attended school two years, in Bardstown, Ky.; thence to the St. Mary's Seminary in Cincinnati, for some time; thence to Einsbrook for three years; thence to Rome for one year, where he finished his collegiate course, and returned to Cincinnati, and was employed as teacher in the St. Mary's Seminary for two years. He came to Greenville in August, 1877, and has charge of the church here—also those in the country, and is a gentleman of ability and refinement.

**WILLIAM K. KERLIN**, retired, Greenville; born in Wayne Co., Ind., March 2, 1832, and is a son of Elijah and Malinda (Sands) Kerlin, both natives of Washington Co., East Tenn.; they emigrated to Indiana and located in Wayne Co. in 1831; Mrs. Kerlin died September, 1879. Mr. Kerlin now resides in the same township where he located in 1831. They raised a family of eleven children, eight now living. Our subject, the second son, assisted his father in farming until he attained his majority. Upon the 1st of December, 1853, was united in marriage with Hannah B. Jefferis; she was born in Wayne Co., Ind., Nov. 28, 1830. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom ten now survive, viz., Anna E., Emma, Oscar, Mary B., John D., William L., Edwin, Carrie, James and Elijah. Mr. Kerlin continued farming in Wayne Co., Ind., until March, 1865, when he came to Harrison Township, Darke Co., continuing the same occupation until 1870, when he removed to Greenville, where he has since lived: during his residence in Harrison Township, he held the office of Justice of the Peace two terms, and one term in Greenville; was Deputy County Treasurer from 1871 to 1875; was elected County Treasurer in 1874; re-elected in 1876, by a majority of upward of nine hundred, largely leading his ticket; during his term of office he handled upward of \$2,000,000 of the public funds, and so satisfactory was his administration that the press of both parties were unanimous in their approval of the same. Mr. Kerlin is a strong leader of his party, and has probably done as much or more in controlling the political affairs of the past ten years, than any man in Darke Co.

**SOLOMON KESTER**, merchant, Greenville. Among the most enterprising merchants of Greenville, we take pleasure in according the above gentleman a place in the front ranks. He was born in German Township, Darke Co., Nov. 10, 1839, and is a son of George Kester, whose sketch also appears in another part of this work. Our subject assisted his father upon the farm until 16 years of age, when he began farming for himself, and successfully followed the same until 1871,





at which date he embarked in the mercantile business in Palestine, continuing the same successfully until February, 1880, when he located in the city of Greenville, with one of the largest and best-selected stocks of goods ever brought to this town. With the well-known enterprise of Mr. Kester, his large stock, pleasing, attentive and obliging clerks, we predict for the above firm the largest annual sales of any firm in the dry-goods trade in Darke Co.; he is now located in the store formerly occupied by Wilson & Hart: a card of his business appears in the business directory of Greenville, in another part of this work. His marriage with Mary A. Lease was celebrated in 1863: they have two children—George V. and Roxy.

**WILLIAM KIPP**, druggist and pharmacist, Greenville. We could hardly do justice to the business interests of Greenville, without devoting a brief space of this work to the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He was born in the kingdom of Wurtemberg, Germany, April 13, 1832, where he received a liberal education, attending school continuously from 6 to 14 years of age. When 20 years of age, he emigrated to America, landing in New York September, 1851, making the trip from Antwerp in twenty-three days, in a sailing vessel; he then came to Cincinnati, and was employed on the railroad some four months, and in the spring of 1853 came to Dayton; in September of the same year, came to Greenville, where he has since lived; upon arriving here, his capital consisted of 60 cents; after following the business of tonsorial artist two years, he associated with Conrad Shively in the drug business, under the firm name of Shively & Kipp, continuing the same until 1872, when the death of Mr. S. occurred, since which time Mr. Kipp has continued the business alone; he keeps a full and complete line of such goods as are to be found only in first-class drug stores: a card of his business is to be found in the business directory of Greenville, in another part of this work. His marriage with Barbara C. Rich was celebrated in the spring of 1857; she was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1834; they were the parents of eight children, of whom two are deceased: the living are Emma, Bertha, Conrad, August, William and Edward.

**ALBERT KLEE**, butcher, Third street, west of Broadway, Greenville; born in Prussia July 7, 1848, where he received a good education in German, until 14 years of age, after which he assisted his father in agricultural pursuits three years; at 17 years of age, he commenced the trade of butcher, serving two and a half years. In 1872, he came to America and followed his trade in Indianapolis, Chicago and St. Louis, until 1877, at which date he came to Greenville, and engaged in the butcher's business, and in the fall of 1879 he located on Third street, where he has since continued. In the spring of 1879, he associated with his present partner, under the firm name of Albert Klee & Co., his present partner being George Buchy.

**A. J. KLINGER**, miller and dealer in grain and seeds, Greenville. Among the old settlers of Darke Co., we are pleased to give this gentleman more than a passing notice. He was born in Preble Co. in 1830, and, with his mother, came to Darke Co. and located in Monroe Township in 1838; at 18 years of age, he, with an older brother, engaged in the merchandise trade, continuing the same some two years; then, for a short time, at Ithaca, and, upon the completion of the D. & V. R. R., located at Gordon, and was the first grain merchant as well as among the first merchants of the town; after being engaged in Gordon some five years, he disposed of his grain and merchandise interest, removed to Ithaca and followed farming two years; he then purchased the Ithaca Mill, running the same five years, then one year at Winchester, Ind.; in the fall of 1867, he removed to Arcanum, where he followed milling until 1871, at which date he came to Greenville, and, in 1876, purchased his present business property, remodeled and enlarged the same, placing in the most improved machinery and now has a mill of a capacity of fifty barrels per day; he is also largely engaged in buying and shipping grain to the Eastern markets. His marriage with Caroline Werts was celebrated in 1857; she is a daughter of Peter Werts, one of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; they are





the parents of three sons and five daughters. viz., Sarah E., Delia F., Laura, Amy S., Cora, D. O., Watson J. and Peter W.

**JAMES K. KNICK**, farmer and stock-raiser. Sec. 19; P. O. Greenville; the subject of this memoir located in Darke Co. in an early day; he was born in Miami Co., Ohio, Feb. 9, 1824; he was a son of William Knick, who was born in Virginia, and came to Miami Co. at an early day and followed farming until his decease, which occurred in 1850; he was married, in Virginia, to Rachel Armstrong; she was also born in Virginia, and died in Miami Co. in 1868; the gentleman whose name heads this sketch assisted his father in farming until 28 years of age, when, in 1852, he, with ox teams, taking with him 116 head of cattle, crossed the Rocky Mountains at North Pass; arrived in Stockton Valley after a long and tedious journey of five months and six days; in California, he spent six years at mining, and met with fair success; he then returned to Ohio, and, in 1859, came to Darke Co. and purchased 80 acres of his present place, to which he has added by purchase until he now owns upward of 220 acres, under a good state of cultivation, with two good sets of farm buildings, nearly all of which he has secured by his own exertions. His marriage with Magdalena Ashman was celebrated in Miami Co. Feb. 16, 1860; she was born in Darke Co., Sec. 19, Greenville Township, April 24, 1841; she died March 27, 1873, leaving seven children, viz: Thomas, born Feb. 16, 1861; John, May 6, 1862; James, August 28, 1863; Charles, Sept. 9, 1865; Magdalena M., July 5, 1867; Eliza J., May 8, 1869, died April 16, 1873; Laura Bell, born May 6, 1871. He gives his whole attention to raising stock, corn and wheat, and is now engaged in farming all his land.

**CHRISTIAN KNODERER**, butcher, Greenville; born in Baden, Germany, Aug. 5, 1820; he received a good education in German, French and Latin, and, at 18 years of age, was apprenticed to learn the butcher's trade, and, after two years, he served four years in different countries at his trade; he then started the same business for himself in Emendingers, Germany, following the same until 1848, and he served in the revolution of 1848-49; he was taken prisoner, and, after two months' imprisonment, emigrated to America, landing at New York July 4, 1850; he then followed farming two years in Pennsylvania, thence coming to Illinois, where he worked some nine months; he came to Ohio and settled in Darke Co. in 1856, and farmed in Wayne Township six years, and, in 1862, came to Greenville and engaged in the butchering business, which he has since successfully followed. He was Township Treasurer of Greenville Township for the year 1876. His marriage with Catherine Kern was celebrated in 1854; she was also a native of Baden; born in 1826; they have no children.

**JAMES M. LANSDOWNE**; P. O. Greenville; cashier of the Exchange Bank of Greenville; the subject of this memoir is a native of Ohio, and was born in Clermont Co., upon the 14th of December, 1846, and is a son of Dr. Zachariah M. Lansdowne, who was born in Kentucky, but when quite young removed to Clermont Co., Ohio, where he married Mary Gray Hoover, a native of the above county; by this union there were eight children, our subject being the second child and only son; about the year 1850, the family removed to Cincinnati, and in 1855 came to Greenville, where the Doctor followed his profession until 1876, at which date he removed to Kansas, where he has since lived; Mrs. Lansdowne died in 1871; of the children, four are also deceased; James M. was educated at the public schools, and one year at Antioch College; in 1864, he enlisted in the 152d O. N. G., and participated fully in the short but active engagements of the above regiment; returning from the war, he followed clerical pursuits in the express and ticket office until 1869, when he accepted his present position as Cashier of the Greenville Exchange Bank, which he now holds; upon the 26th of September, 1876, he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Knox; she was born in Greenville Dec. 21, 1851; they have one child by this union, John Knox Lansdowne; Mrs. L. is the only daughter of John Riley Knox, a prominent lawyer of Greenville.





**MARTIN W. LAURIMORE.** City Marshal, Greenville; born in the city of Greenville, Darke Co., Aug. 16, 1842, and is a son of William and Malinda (Martin) Laurimore; William was born in Allegheny Co., Penn., Nov. 30, 1805. Malinda Martin was born April 3, 1811. Mr. L. came to Greenville in 1822, and engaged in the hotel business, keeping the first tavern in the place, located on Main street, just west of the city square, and known as the old Log Cabin House; he was engaged in this business several years; he was then engaged in the dry-goods trade several years; subsequently he was elected Justice of the Peace, which position he held sixteen years, and until he declined to serve longer on account of failing health; he died in November, 1863. Mrs. L. having deceased March 31, 1855; they were the parents of nine sons and five daughters, of whom seven sons and two daughters now survive; our subject was educated in the schools of Greenville, and at 15 years of age commenced the trade of printer, serving two and a half years. He responded to the first call of President Lincoln for troops at the commencement of the late rebellion, and upon the 16th of April, 1861, enlisted in the 11th O. V. I., for three months; he then re-enlisted in the 34th O. V. I., Col. Piatt's Zouaves, for three years, and served through West Virginia and Maryland, participating in the campaigns of the Shenandoah Valley, being in twenty-four different engagements; was mustered out of service Sept 16, 1864, having served in the Union army three years and four months; he then returned to Greenville and engaged in various pursuits until April 1, 1878, when he was elected City Marshal, which office he now holds. Upon the 7th of May, 1866, he was united in marriage with Mary E. Vance; she was born in West Alexandria, Preble Co., Ohio, Aug. 22, 1839; they have three children—Estella B., Frank and Nellie.

**JACOB E. LEAS,** merchant, Greenville; another of the old settlers of Darke Co., born in Preble Co., Ohio, Nov. 5, 1840; he is a son of Jesse Leas, who came to Darke Co., in 1843, and located in Sampson; he died in Palestine in March, 1861; he was married, in Preble Co., to Sarah A. Cresler, who is now living in German Township. The subject of our sketch followed clerking in the merchandise store of his father until the death of the latter. On the 16th of October, 1861, he enlisted as private in the 69th O. V. I., and soon after was at the front, fighting for the preservation of the Union and the honor of our glorious flag; he was in the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga, Buzzards' Roost, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, siege and capture of Atlanta, with Sherman on his march through Georgia to the sea, thence north through the Carolinas, and with Sherman when Johnston surrendered, thence through Richmond to Washington, when, after the grand review of the army, he went to Louisville and received his discharge, in August, 1865, having served in the Union army nearly four years. After serving his first term of enlistment, he returned with his regiment, Feb. 27, 1864, and remained in service until the close of the war, passing through various grades of promotion, and was mustered out of service as Captain of Co. A. He then returned to Darke Co. and followed merchandising at Greenville, Jaysville and Palestine (with the exception of a short residence in Indiana) until April, 1871, when he came to Ansonia and followed the merchandise trade for a short time. In 1874, he received the appointment of Postmaster. Upon the locating of the well-known house of Sol. Kester at Greenville, Feb. 1, 1880, Mr. Leas resigned his official position as Postmaster at Ansonia, and associated with the above firm, where he may always be found, ready and willing to attend to the wants of his many warm friends. His marriage with Rebecca Duke was celebrated Sept. 19, 1867; they have three children now living, viz., Russell D., Bertha J. and Blair.

**LEVI FRANKLIN LIMBERT,** lawyer, Greenville; was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Sept. 4, 1854; his father, Lewis Limbert, was born in Mifflin Co., Penn., in 1814, but was reared in Montgomery Co., Ohio, where he married Sarah E. Hinsey in 1835. Our subject, after the usual common-school course, in the spring of 1870 entered the Miami Commercial College at Dayton; in 1871, he secured a





position as book-keeper ; afterward, he became a teacher, and, in 1873, he entered the normal school at Lebanon ; he entered upon the study of law with C. M. Anderson, in 1876, and, in 1877, was admitted to practice, and at once commenced practice in Greenville.

JOHN LONGENECKER, farmer and carpenter, Sec. 1 ; P. O. Pikeville ; another old settler of Darke County ; born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Feb. 12, 1830 ; he is of German descent, his grandfather being one of four brothers who came from Germany and located in Pennsylvania ; the father of John was Samuel Longenecker, who was born in Dauphin Co., Penn., April 5, 1789, and emigrated to Warren Co., about the year 1821, and, six years later, located in Montgomery Co., and, in 1840, came to Darke Co. and settled in Richland Township, and followed cabinet-making and undertaking until his death, which occurred Sept. 14, 1842 ; he was married in Dauphin Co., Penn., to Anna Shank, who was born in the same county Nov. 19, 1790 ; they were the parents of ten children, of whom five are now living ; Mrs. S. died in Richland Township Dec. 5, 1847. The subject of this memoir came to Darke Co. with his parents, and while his father followed his trade, his sons did the labor on the farm, John remaining with him during his lifetime ; after the death of his father, he removed to Beamsville and followed the trade of cabinet-making three years, and, in 1865, he commenced the carpenter business, and, until 1877, gave this his exclusive attention ; his buildings extended over all of the northern townships, and among his contracts were some additions to the county infirmary ; without serving any apprenticeship at the trade, he has been one of the most successful contractors, and probably no man in the county has erected more farm buildings than Mr. Longenecker ; in 1864, he located on his present place, where he has since lived ; he has 65 acres in his home farm, all under a good state of improvement. He has been twice married ; his first wife was Letina Holloway, who died without issue. His marriage with Elizabeth Beem was celebrated Sept. 30, 1855 ; she was born Oct. 4, 1834 ; they have three children—Franklin, born Nov. 28, 1857 ; Harry, March 6, 1863 ; Theodore, June 5, 1867.

LOUIS B. LOTT, farmer, Sec. 19 ; P. O. Greenville.

SAMUEL LUDY, farmer and brick manufacturer, Sec. 24 ; P. O. Greenville ; one of the oldest settlers of Darke Co., born in Frederick Co., Md., May 30, 1833. He was a son of David Ludy, who was born in the above county and State in 1803. He was married in Maryland to Mary Burns. She was born in Ireland in 1834, and emigrated to America with her parents in infancy. David Ludy and family came to Ohio in 1838, landing in Dayton June 1, and in Miami Co., the same year, where the decease of Mrs. Ludy occurred in November, 1852. Mr. Ludy came to Darke Co. in 1875, where his decease occurred in October, 1876. The subject of this sketch resided in Miami Co. and engaged in agricultural pursuits until Oct. 8, 1856, when he was united in marriage with Christina Guntrum. She was born in Pennsylvania in 1833, and was a daughter of John Guntrum, who came to Darke Co. in 1837. The children of Samuel and Christina Guntrum Ludy were four in number—William, David, Rebecca and Samuel. Upon the marriage of Mr. Ludy, he came to Darke Co. and located upon his present place, where he has lived for a period of twenty-three years. He has 37 acres of land, with good farm buildings, his brick residence being the second-best farm residence in the township. He is largely engaged in manufacturing brick of superior quality, his yard turning out in a single season upward of ten hundred and fifty thousand. A card of his business will be found in the business directory of Greenville, in another part of this work. Mr. Ludy is now serving his second year as Township Trustee of the township in which he lives.

DR. ELIJAH LYNCH, physician and surgeon, Greenville. Among the old settlers of Darke Co., we take pleasure in giving the gentlemen whose name heads this sketch a place in the front ranks of his profession ; he was born in Warren Co., Ohio, Sept. 25, 1809, and was a son of Isaiah and Charity (Hasket) Lynch.





both natives of South Carolina: they came to Ohio in 1805, and settled in Warren Co.; Mr. Lynch was of Welsh descent, and was born in South Carolina in 1769, and died in Warren Co., Ohio, in 1814; Mrs. Lynch was of English descent born in South Carolina in 1799, and died March 11, 1848, in Butler Co., Ohio. The subject of our sketch obtained his general education in the Quaker schools, and, in 1834, commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Charters, of Waynesville, Ohio, with whom he remained two years, after which he studied two years with Dr. Thomas, of Sydney, and graduated from the Ohio Medical College in 1841; in 1845, he first located in Darke Co., and commenced the practice of medicine in Palestine, and, in 1849, located in Greenville, where he has since successfully followed his profession for a period of upward of thirty years, and is, consequently, one of the oldest continuous practitioners of the county. His marriage with Mary O'Brien was celebrated in 1832; she was born in Vermont May 15, 1811; they were the parents of eight children, of whom three are deceased; the living are Rebecca, now Mrs. Dr. Woods, of Van Wert; William, now practicing medicine in Shanesville, Ohio; Isaac, in the jewelry trade at Greenville, and Mary and Ida, living at home; of the deceased, Thomas died at 11 years of age; Sarah died at 19 years of age; Charles grew to manhood, and at his death left a widow and three children now living at Lima, Ohio; he was a resident of Indianapolis until his decease, and occupied the position of general ticket agent of the Indianapolis, Peru & Chicago Railroad.

M. McDANIEL, Greenville, firm of McDaniel & Son, manufacturers and dealers in furniture. Greenville, like most cities of its size, has its representative men in nearly every branch of trade, and to the above firm must be accorded the honor of being the leading firm in this line in Darke Co. M. McDaniel was born in Medina Co., Ohio, Aug. 15, 1836; the early part of his life was passed in Putnam Co., where he received a fair education in the common schools. In 1854, he located in Troy, Miami Co., where he completed the trade of cabinet-making, with Joel T. Thompson, who was one of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; he continued in Mr. Thompson's employ three years, when he associated with James W. Hickson, and purchased his employer's interest and continued the furniture business, under the firm name of Hickson & McDaniel, until the fall of 1860, when he sold out to his partner, and after a short residence in Lima, Ohio, enlisted, Aug. 12, 1862, in the 94th O. V. I., and went forward to battle for the Union; he was in many severe engagements, among which were Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Hoover's Gap, Tallahoma, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Ringgold, Buzzard Roost, Resaca, Dallas, Peach Tree Creek and all through the siege and capture of Atlanta, during which time he was actively engaged for eighty-four days in succession, and was with Sherman on his march through Georgia to the sea, through the Carolinas, and was with Sherman at the surrender of Johnston; thence north through Richmond to Washington, where, after the grand review of the army, he was forwarded to Columbus, mustered out of service, and received his discharge on June 14, 1865, having served in the Union army nearly three years. Upon receiving his discharge, he returned to Troy and followed his trade five years, and in 1871 came to Greenville, and for four years was foreman of Turpen & Co.'s furniture factory, and in 1874 purchased the furniture store of Turpen & Auld, since which time he has continued the business under the above firm name. His marriage was celebrated with Nancy E. Mickfall Dec. 1, 1859; she died Dec. 14, 1879; they were the parents of three children, of whom two died in infancy; the living, William A. J., is now junior member of the above firm. Mr. McDaniel has been a member of the Baptist Church since 1865, and became a member of Center Lodge, No. 272, of Troy, in 1860, and in 1874 affiliated with the Greenville Lodge, No. 195, and is also a member of Greenville Encampment, No. 90.

ALEXANDER HUGH McEOWEN, retired farmer, Greenville; among the old settlers of Darke Co., Ohio; the gentleman whose name heads this sketch is awarded a place in the front ranks; he was born in Somerset Co., N. J., Oct. 2,





1-10; he was a son of Alexander McEowen, who was born in the above State Nov. 29, 1778; he married his second wife, Alada Hageman, in November, 1808; she was born in New Jersey; they were the parents of seven children by this union, of whom the subject of this sketch and Henry H. now survive; Henry was born July 21, 1823, and is now living in Allen Township, Darke Co.; their father was one of the patriots of the war of 1812, and was also one of the minute-men of the Northwest Territory, and served under Gen. Wayne in this State; he was married three times, and was the father of eleven children, of whom only three now survive; Mr. McEowen died Dec. 12, 1863, aged 85 years; Mrs. McEowen died Aug. 22, 1830. The subject of this memoir came to Ohio with his parents in 1822, and located in Warren Co., where he followed farming until 1844, when he came to Darke Co., and, after a residence of ten years in Twin Township, during which time he cleared a farm of 90 acres, he came to Greenville Township and purchased his present place in 1854, where he has since lived; he now has in his home farm 225 acres under a good state of cultivation, with good farm buildings, located two and one-half miles east from Greenville, nearly all of which he has secured by his own hard labor and correct business habits, in which he has been nobly assisted by his amiable wife, to whom he was married March 14, 1839; she was born in Warren Co., Ohio, Dec. 17, 1810; they have no children of their own, but have taken and partially raised several until sufficiently old to be self-supporting. Mr. McEowen continued farming until 1878, when he rented his farm and retired from active labor. He was formerly an Old Line Whig, but joined the Republican party upon its organization, and since that time he has ardently labored for the support of the same. Mr. and Mrs. McEowen have been members of the Presbyterian Church many years. They have traveled the path of life together for a period of forty years, and now, in their declining years, find that comfort and consolation in the Bible which only falls to the lot of true Christians.

WASHINGTON MCGINNIS, contractor and builder, Greenville; among the early pioneers of Darke Co., the gentleman whose name heads this sketch is entitled to a place in the front ranks; he was born in Washington Co., East Tennessee, in 1812; at 14 years of age, he came to Darke Co. with his parents, and has been a continuous resident of this county since 1826, a period of fifty-four years, and is, consequently, among the oldest settlers of the county, as well as the oldest representative of his business in Greenville; upon locating here, he assisted his father in agricultural pursuits until he attained his majority, and, in 1833, came to Greenville and apprenticed himself for two years to learn the carpenter's trade; after completing the same, he worked at his trade two years, and, in 1840, he started in business for himself at Greenville, and has for a period of forty years been engaged at the above business. He is a Democrat in politics, but has never been an aspirant for office, but without solicitation was nominated and elected as one of the members of the City Council, which office he has held two years. Upon the 20th of January, 1841, he was united in marriage with Sarah S. Emley; she was born in Warren Co. in 1819; they have three children living by this union, having lost two by death; the living are Lizzie, Wash and Emma. Mrs. McGinnis was a daughter of David Emley, a native of New Jersey; he died in Warren Co., Ohio, in 1862, upward of 80 years of age. He married Sarah Chamberlin, also a native of New Jersey; she is now living in Warren Co., at the advanced age of 85 years.

PATRICK H. MAHER, County Recorder, Greenville; the subject of this sketch was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, Jan. 29, 1845; he is a son of James and Catherine (Fanning) Maher, who with their family emigrated to America and landed in New Orleans in 1850; they then came up the river to Cincinnati, and on the way up Patrick H. suffered the loss by death of three of his brothers, grandfather and grandmother by cholera; he resided in Clarke and Champaign Cos. until 1864, at which date he came to Darke Co. and engaged in school teaching near Coletown until 1874, when he was elected County Recorder,





which office he now holds. Upon the 25th of December, 1873, he was united in marriage with Ellen Manix; they have three children by this union—John F., James E. and Catherine. Mrs. Maher is a sister of George Manix, who is also mentioned among the biographies of Greenville Township, in this work.

G. W. MANIX, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 13; P. O. Greenville; born in the County Clare, Ireland, March 28, 1843; he came to America with his parents when a small boy, and came to Montgomery Co., Ohio, where they lived until 1858, at which date they came to Darke Co. and settled in Mississinawa Township. The subject of this memoir resided with his parents until 21 years of age, when he commenced life for himself, and engaged in contracting and building, and building bridges and pikes; after erecting some dwellings, he built the fine schoolhouse at Bradford, which cost \$25,000; he also built the schoolhouse at Brennan, Ohio, at a cost of \$24,000, and many dwellings in Greenville; he has been largely engaged in building pikes in Montgomery, Darke, Shelby and Miami Cos., Ohio, and Randolph Co., Ind.; he has, probably, built more miles of pike than any man of his age in Darke Co., and has employed as high as 150 teams at a time, and has received as high as \$4,000 per mile. In March, 1875, he located upon his present place, which contains 103 acres, and is one of the oldest improved farms of Greenville; he has the oldest cedar-tree in Darke Co.; he also has in his yard three mineral springs, of an entirely different nature. He is now devoting his attention to farming and stock-raising. He was united in marriage with Emma J. Reagan on the 11th of December, 1867; she was born in Darke Co., Ohio, April 19, 1846, and died Nov. 6, 1877, leaving five children living (having lost one by death), viz: James, born Feb. 26, 1869; Annie, Sept. 28, 1870; George W., March 20, 1872; Dennis E., in December, 1873; John, Nov. 12, 1875; Walter, the deceased, died in infancy. His marriage with Margaret Lynch was celebrated May 20, 1879; she was born in Greenville, Darke Co., in 1858.

JOHN MARK (deceased). The subject of this memoir was born in Adams Co., Penn., May 14, 1809; he was a son of Peter Mark, a native of Pennsylvania, who lived and died in the place of his nativity. Our subject was raised on a farm, and assisted his father until his marriage which took place in Pennsylvania with Mary Wirtz in 1830; he followed farming in the above place until 1834, when he removed to Darke Co. and settled on the place where his widowed wife and children now reside; his land was in the wild woods, but Mr. Mark had the material to overcome the difficulties of a pioneer life, and cleared his farm and made a good home which offered him much enjoyment and comfort in his declining years; his wife Mary departed this life July 1, 1842; she was born March 2, 1807; they were the parents of five children, of whom all are dead; Mary departed this life the same night and almost at the same hour as her father, which is a remarkable coincidence, and, in fact, it has never fallen the duty of the writer to chronicle such an occurrence before. He was again united in marriage with Catherine B. Zumbum; she was born July 28, 1816; her father was a native of Maryland, and died when Mrs. Mark was quite small, aged 44 years; her mother died at the age of 69 years, and is buried in the Martin Cemetery; by this marriage, Mr. Mark had fourteen children, of whom six are now living; the death messenger has made terrible and frequent visits to this family; thirteen children and a father have been taken from earth to heaven. Mr. Mark departed this life Aug. 16, 1879; he was the parent of nineteen children, fifteen grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren; he died in the triumph of his faith, having been a true member of the church for the greater part of his life; in early life he was a Presbyterian, and an elder in the church, then he connected with the Campbellites and lived an exemplary life and died trusting in the promise of his Savior. Mr. Mark has always been a good, consistent woman.

JAMES JONES MARKWITH, retired farmer, Sec. 35; P. O. Greenville. among the early settlers of Darke Co., the gentleman whose name heads this sketch takes a place in the front rank; he was born in Hamilton Co., Ohio, Oct.





1818: he is a son of John C. Markwith, who was born in Essex Co., N. J. in November, 1774. He was married in New Jersey to Elizabeth Muckridge; she was born in the same State about the year 1786; they came to Ohio in 1810. and located in Hamilton Co., and came to Darke Co. in 1820, and located in what is now Van Buren Township, where he entered land, and where he lived until his decease, which occurred Nov. 30, 1836. Mrs. Markwith died in 1861. The subject of our sketch came to Darke Co. with his parents in 1820, and is consequently, one of the early pioneers; his education was obtained in an old log schoolhouse with stick and mud chimney, the fireplace extending across the end of the building, and at the same time, his eldest son attended the same school; he remained with his father until the decease of the latter, after which he remained with his mother until April 1, 1838, when he was united in marriage with Sarah Ashley; she was born in Ohio March 1, 1821, and died in Darke Co. Nov. 23, 1846; they were the parents of three children, viz.: Morrison M., born Aug. 29, 1839; Elizabeth, born Nov. 7, 1841, died April 7, 1843; Mary Jane, born Oct. 11, 1844, died April 22, 1847. His marriage with Barbara Brown was celebrated Oct. 24, 1847; she was born in Wayne Co., Ind., Dec. 26, 1821; seven sons and three daughters were the fruit of this union, all of whom are now living, viz.: Estha, born Aug. 19, 1848; John A., born Dec. 28, 1849; Ira, born Nov. 14, 1851; James W., born Feb. 21, 1853; Samuel M., born April 19, 1854; Andrew L., born April 26, 1856; Aaron F., born Sept. 23, 1858; Martha J., born April 17, 1861; Hannah B., born Nov. 27, 1862; George Abraham Lincoln, born March 6, 1866. Upon the marriage of Mr. Markwith, he commenced for himself upon the old homestead, and after farming one year, then purchased 80 acres of timber in Neave Township, for which he was to pay \$651; at this time his capital consisted of \$25, and one horse; upon this place he lived some nineteen years, during which time he had cleared some 60 acres, and, in 1857, he disposed of the above farm, purchased 176 acres in Van Buren Township, upon which he moved and lived until 1878, when he settled upon his present place of 26 acres; located within 40 rods of the corporation limits of the city of Greenville. Mr. Markwith commenced life without capital, and has suffered the privations and hardships of frontier life, and has by his own hard labor and correct business habits, secured a good fortune: he has now 276 acres in Van Buren Township and his home residence; he is another of the self-made men of Darke Co. He is a Republican in politics, but has never had any aspiration for office; he has taken a deep interest in the cause of religion, having been a member of the Christian Church for a period of upward of forty years; his wife also being a member of same church, and seven of the children also being members of different churches. Morrison M., being a preacher of the Gospel in the Methodist belief, is located at Zanesville, Logan Co., Ohio.

ROBERT MARTIN, farmer; P. O. Greenville. Among the early pioneers of Darke Co., we take pleasure in giving notice of the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He was born in Youngstown, Ohio, July 23, 1804; was a son of William Martin, who was born in Pennsylvania, where he was married to Sarah Larimore; they came to Darke Co. in March, 1816, and entered 60 acres upon Sec. 5, and located upon the same section in Greenville Township; Mrs. Martin died in July, 1816, and Mr. Martin died about the year 1864. The subject of this sketch located upon his present place in 1816, where he has continued to reside for a period of sixty-four years, and is probably the oldest continual resident upon any one section in Darke Co.; he received a limited education in an old log schoolhouse with stick and mud chimney, the whole end of which was used as a fireplace; the benches were made of split logs, with plank laid upon pins inserted in holes bored in the logs of the house for writing desks; he was raised to agricultural pursuits upon the farm of his father until the 24th of April, 1828, when he was married to Dorcas Boyd; she was born in Warren Co., Ohio, July 21, 1807, and came to Darke Co. with her parents when 6 months old, who were among the very earliest pioneers of this county; the children of Robert and Dorcas Martin





were twelve in number—Ira, born March 11, 1829, died June 9, 1879; Martha A. born Sept. 23, 1830; Sarah, born June 27, 1832, died July 30, 1834; Minerva born May 6, 1834; Emily, born Jan. 14, 1836; Nancy J., Jan. 25, 1838; William and Sarah (twins), Feb. 22, 1841; Hettie, born Aug. 17, 1842, died Sept. 24, 1869; Eliza, born May 4, 1845, died March 20, 1870; Robert K., born Dec. 1, 1848, and Mary L., born Sept. 19, 1851. Mrs. Martin died Nov. 4, 1877. Upon the marriage of Mr. Martin, he commenced life for himself, and after following tanning upon the old place for ten years, he then engaged in farming, which business he followed until the last twenty years, during which latter time the home farm has been carried on by his son Robert K., who has always lived at home; he was united in marriage with Florence A. Judy Oct. 2, 1873, who was born in Greene Co., Ohio, Dec. 7, 1853; they have two children—Huldy Jane, born Jan. 3, 1875; Clarence E., June 21, 1878.

JOHN HOLMES MARTIN, retired farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Greenville; another of the early pioneers of Darke Co., born in Trumbull Co., Ohio, June 19, 1810; when 9 years of age, he removed to Darke Co. and located in Washington Township; he was a son of William Martin, who was born in Ireland, and came to America when an infant, with his parents, who settled in Maryland, and removed to Pennsylvania when he was 15 years of age, and came to Ohio about 1801; in 1813, he located in Butler Co., and in 1819 came to Darke Co., where he was engaged in farming in Washington Township until his decease, which occurred in the fall of 1821. Our subject lived upon the old homestead, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1856, when he purchased his present place, where he has since lived; he now owns 107 acres upon his home farm, within half a mile of Greenville, with good farm buildings, and valued at upward of \$100 per acre; he also owns 126 acres in Washington Township, which is a part of the old homestead upon which he located sixty years ago; he also has 120 acres in Mississinawa Township; he has his farms rented, and devotes his entire attention to buying and shipping stock to Cincinnati and other markets. Mr. Martin is entitled to a place in the front ranks of the early pioneers, being one of the few old landmarks left who relate their experience with the Indians, the bear, the wolf, the panther, the deer and other wild game which was to be found in abundance. He has taken a deep interest in the cause of religion, having been a member of the Presbyterian Church for forty years, and was influenced to purchase his present home, in 1856, that he might have better advantages for churches and education for his family. His marriage with Casandra Chenoweth was celebrated March 21, 1833; she was born in Franklin Co., Ohio, in October, 1813, and died Feb. 16, 1879; seven children were born to them, of whom six are now living—Margaret, Elizabeth, Mary J., William H., Rachel, John F. and James P.; the deceased was William H., who lost his life at Nashville while fighting for the preservation of the Union during the late war of the rebellion.

WILLIAM MARTIN, retired, Greenville; another of the early pioneers is the above gentleman; he was born in Trumbull Co., Ohio, Dec. 25, 1812, and is a son of William and Sarah (Larimore) Martin, early pioneers of Darke Co., of whom further mention is made in the sketch of Robert Martin; the subject of our sketch came to Darke Co. with his parents in 1817, and settled in the east part of this township; his early life was that of a farmer's son, his education being limited, and was obtained in an old log schoolhouse; in 1832, he came to Greenville and obtained employment as clerk in the merchandising business, and in 1835, removed to Ft. Recovery; erected the first house of the place and opened the first merchandise store of the town, and continued in trade here until 1843, at which date he came to Greenville and located on his present place, where he has since lived. His residence, which is large and commodious, was for many years used as a hotel, and conducted as such by Mr. Martin and others. He has been twice married; his first wife, Barbara Adney, was a native of Gallia Co., Ohio; she died in 1846, leaving five children, of whom only two now survive, viz., James



W. and Sarah S.; his marriage with Mary M. Slaughter was celebrated in 1848 or 1849; they were the parents of eight children by this union, of whom only Dotie, Charles S. and Lodema H. now survive.

L. R. MARTIN, farmer and stock-raiser. Sec. 5; P. O. Woodington: one of the old settlers of Darke Co., Ohio; born in Miami Co., Ohio, Sept. 14, 1836; at 9 years of age, he removed to Indiana, near Ft. Wayne, where he resided some eight years, and, in 1853, came to Darke Co., where he has since lived; he remained with his father and followed carpentering and agricultural pursuits until he attained his majority, after which he pursued his trade two years on his own account; he then engaged in clerking in the merchandise store of W. B. Mendenhall at Woodington, and, after clerking three years, was admitted as partner, and continued the merchandise trade at this place under different firm names until 1877, when he disposed of his interest in the merchandising business, and has since given his whole attention to farming; he has 170 acres of land under a good state of cultivation, with good farm buildings; his brick residence, located at Woodington, was erected by him in 1874, at a cost of \$2,800. His marriage with Nancy A. Mendenhall was celebrated in 1861; she was a daughter of W. B. Mendenhall, whose sketch appears among the biographies of Brown Township in another part of this work; she died in 1867, leaving one child—Ida M., born July 31, 1862; his second wife was Eliza A. Hine; they were married in June, 1870; she was born in Darke Co. in 1841; two children were born to them—Maud A., July 5, 1872, and Harry C., born Dec. 24, 1874.

SAMUEL MARTIN, Sec. 1; farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Pikeville: one of the old settlers of Richland Township, born in Darke Co. Jan. 11, 1844; he was a son of Sebastian Martin, who emigrated from Pennsylvania to Darke Co. at an early day, and located in Richland Township; Samuel Martin was raised upon the home farm until he attained his majority, when he was united in marriage with Julia Ann Beanblossom May 29, 1864; she was born in Darke Co. They have three children now living, having lost one in infancy; the living are Franklin M., born May 3, 1865; Mary C., Oct. 7, 1867; Viola G., Nov. 8, 1873. Upon the marriage of Mr. Martin he commenced farming, and the same year went to Nebraska, where he followed butchering one year, and returned in the fall of 1865 to Darke Co., and engaged in farming in Jackson Township, where he remained until 1872, when he located upon his present place, where he has since lived; he has 50 acres in his home farm with good farm buildings and under a good state of cultivation; he also followed thrashing for six years, and operated the first steam thrasher ever run in Darke Co. Mrs. Martin is a daughter of David Beanblossom, one of the pioneers of Darke Co., whose biography appears among the sketches of this township.

JOHN HERSHEY MARTIN, County Clerk, Greenville; born in Adams Township, Darke Co., Nov. 29, 1844; he was a son of Jacob W. and Maria (Hershey) Martin, who located here in 1832; Adams Township and Gettysburg received their names through the father of Mrs. Martin, who was formerly from Adams Co., Penn.; Jacob Martin was in the merchandise trade at Gettysburg, Adams Township, until his decease, which occurred in April, 1876; his widow survives him, and lives in Gettysburg. John H. Martin entered the merchandise store of his father when 13 years of age, where he was employed seven years; he then attended the Iron City Commercial College at Pittsburgh, and graduated from the same in 1865; he was then employed three years as book-keeper at Dayton, after which he was associated with his father in trade several years, and in 1874, came to Greenville, where he was employed in the Auditor's and Treasurer's offices until October, 1879, at which date he was elected to his present office. In September, 1871, he was united in marriage with Miss Nancy O. Robinson, in Kenton, Hardin Co.; they have two children—Lola R. and Maud E.

JAMES W. MARTIN, harness-maker, Greenville. The subject of this memoir was born in Greenville Township, Sept. 24, 1845, and is a son of William





Martin, another of our early pioneers, and whose sketch appears among the biographies in this work. James W. obtained his education in the public school of Greenville, and at 13 years of age was apprenticed to learn the harness-maker's trade, serving three years; he then went to Richmond, where he worked two years, from there to Illinois; he then returned to Greenville in 1869, and engaged in the above business for himself and continued the same till 1880, when he sold out on account of ill health. His marriage with Fannie Jones was celebrated in Greenville, May, 1875; she was born in Darke Co., in 1848; they have one child, Jessie W.

**JOHN FOSTER MARTIN**; P. O. Greenville. John Foster Martin was born in Washington Township, Darke Co., in the year 1852; his parents, John Holmes and Casandra Chenoweth Martin, were among the oldest pioneers of this township, having settled here in 1819. The subject of this sketch, during the earlier years of his life, followed the vocation of a farmer, but having a natural predilection for literary attainments, he entered the Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, where, after pursuing the regular course of studies, he graduated in 1873. Having determined upon the law as his profession, he pursued the study of the same one year, then attended the Cincinnati Law School, where, in 1875, he graduated, and in April of the same year was admitted to practice. In the following summer, he located in Logansport, Ind., in the practice of his profession; but after an experience of six months, the confinement of a law office not agreeing with his inclinations, he abandoned the practice, and engaged in running a flouring-mill. Following this for two years, he next turned his attention to saw-milling; and after continuing in this for about a year and a half, he resumed the honorable and independent occupation of a farmer, at which he is at present engaged.

**JOHN G. MARTINI**, merchant, Greenville: of the firm of Biltemeier & Martini, manufacturers and dealers in boots, shoes and rubber goods, etc., etc.; he was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1827, where he was apprenticed to and worked at the shoemaker's trade until 24 years of age: he then emigrated to America, landing in New York in the spring of 1852, and, upon the 26th of September following, came to Greenville, where he followed his trade until April 11, 1864, at which date he associated with his present partner in the above business. His marriage with Maria M. Werner was celebrated Feb. 16, 1854; she was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1831: they have three children now living, viz., Jacob F., Katrina B. and Henry P.

**JACOB TEUCHNAN MARTZ**, lawyer and educator, Greenville; born in Darke Co. Sept. 14, 1833; he is the son of John Martz, who was born in Somerset Co., Penn., in 1798, and settled in Darke Co. in 1829, and now, at the age of 81, is living with his son in Greenville; his wife, Barbara Hardinger, a native of Bedford Co., Penn., died in 1841. Our subject was early trained to self-reliance, and, when but a lad, started out to make his own living as best he could: he obtained the rudiments of an English education in the common schools of his neighborhood, chopping and hauling wood to pay for his tuition; at the age of 18, he began teaching in the country schools, and, by this means and by manual labor, he had accumulated \$250 at the time he became of age; he then entered the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, for the scientific course, and graduated in the summer of 1856, and of his educational fund had left \$3.50; during the five succeeding years, he was engaged in teaching in his native county, within which time he studied law, under the preceptorship of Judge D. L. Meeker, of Greenville, and was admitted to the bar in 1861. In the spring of 1862, he was elected Superintendent of the public schools of Greenville; in August, 1865, he was appointed Receiver of the Cincinnati & Mackinaw Railroad, which occupied his time for nearly five years; in 1871, he was elected to his present position of Superintendent of the Greenville public schools. In September, 1860, he married Miss Esther M., daughter of James M. Jamison, of Delaware, Ohio; four sons are the issue of this union. Prof. Martz has been for some years the President of the Darke Co.





Teachers' Association, in the organization of which he was prominently active. For twenty years, he has been on the Board of County Examiners, and was for several years Secretary of the county agricultural society. Prof. Martz is one of those who learn the value of a dollar by earning it; by untiring industry, he has acquired a good education and a comfortable competency, and during his career has won and kept the good will of his neighbors; no one questions his integrity, or ability; he is somewhat reserved in his manner, but is socially very agreeable.

**WILLIAM HENDRICKSON MATCHETT**, physician and surgeon, Greenville; was born in Butler Co., Ohio, March 9, 1825. His parents were Eric Matchett and Johanna Hendrickson, natives of Monmouth Co., N. J.; in 1820, the family came to Butler Co., Ohio, and in the spring of 1831, settled in Darke Co.: Mr. Matchett followed the occupation of farmer and miller; energy, industry and honesty were the prominent traits in his character; he died in Greenville, in June, 1867, and his wife on July 20, 1839. For two years, young William, then 14 years of age, carried the mails between Hamilton and Greenville on horseback; by working, teaching and attending school, as circumstances would permit, he acquired a good education for his day; at the age of 22, he commenced the study of medicine while engaged in teaching, and was, at different times, under the instruction of Dr. Jaqua, of Darke, and Drs. Cox and Lineweaver, of Preble Co.: he attended lectures at the Cleveland Medical College, and graduated from the Ohio Medical College in Cincinnati, in 1851; in September, 1851, he commenced practice in Ithaca, Darke Co.; on Feb. 8, 1863, he entered the army as Assistant Surgeon of the 40th O. V. I., and served as such till December, 1864; on March 1, 1865, he was promoted to Surgeon of the 186th O. V. I., and was mustered out in the following September; his first post of duty in the army was at Franklin Hospital, Tennessee, and he was subsequently placed on duty in the hospital of the First Division of the Fourth Corps of the Army of the Cumberland; in September, 1862, he located in Greenville; for many years, he has been a member of both the County and State Medical Societies; he has made his profession a specialty, and occupies an eminent rank among the physicians and surgeons of the State; he is also the author of a number of valuable contributions to the medical literature of Ohio. Dr. Matchett was married Dec. 2, 1852, to Miss Eleanora, daughter of William Lindsay, of Richmond, Ind., a lady of rare culture and refinement; there have been six children born to them, only three of whom are living; his eldest son died Aug. 5, 1877; he was a young man of great ability, and was foremost in his class at Cornell University, where he was soon to graduate, when death claimed him. Dr. Matchett is a Mason of long standing, being a member of Ithaca Lodge, R. A. Chapter of Greenville, and of Coleman Commandery, K. T., of Troy.

**DAVID L. MEEKER**, lawyer and Judge, was born in Darke Co. in 1827; he experienced a farmer's boyhood and received a meager common-school education, supplemented by a brief course of academic instruction; he taught school several winters; he read law with the late Judge Ebenezer Parsons, of Miami Co., and was admitted to the bar in 1851; in May, 1853, he opened a law office in Greenville; in 1856, he was elected Prosecuting Attorney for Darke County, and re-elected in 1858. In 1861, he was elected Common Pleas Judge of the first subdivision of the Second Judicial District, but resigned in 1866; in 1872, he was appointed by Gov. Noyes to fill a vacancy on the same bench, occasioned by the resignation of Judge J. C. McKenny, and, in 1873, he was elected to the same position without opposition; again, in 1878, upon the recommendation of all parties, he was unanimously elected. Judge Meeker has been twice married. In 1857, he married Miss Mary A. Deardorf, from which union were born eight children; she died in 1876. In 1878, he married Miss Jennie D. Crisler, of Eaton, Ohio. Politically, Judge Meeker is a Democrat; personally, he is a gentleman of correct views and strict integrity.

**A. T. MILLER**, architect, Greenville; was born in German Township Dec.



14, 1841; his father, Isaac, was born in Pennsylvania in 1818, and settled in Darke Co. in 1832; his mother, Mary (Ross) Miller, was born in German Township in 1820. Our subject was reared on the farm, and, when a lad, learned the mason's trade. At the age of 18, he entered the army, a volunteer in Co. C, 11th O. V. L., 100-days men; they were stationed at Camp Dennison, and their time of service was filled in doing camp duty; after his discharge Sept. 10, 1861, he enlisted in Co. K, of the 34th O. V. L., First Zouaves, and was immediately transferred to the front, and his regiment was a portion of Rosecrans' corps; his regiment participated in the battles of Chapmansville, Red House Shoals, Princeton, Newbern, Fayetteville and Wythesville, where his Colonel, — Toland, was killed; after this, they were transferred to Hunter's army and took an active part in the many battles that followed in the Shenandoah Valley; at Fayetteville, our subject received a wound in the left wrist; Gen. Crook was then in command, and the 34th and 36th Ohio Regiments, having been thinned by repeated battles, were consolidated; he was again wounded at Opequan in the head, and afterward lay in the hospital at Philadelphia for three months; in February, 1865, he was commissioned Second Lieutenant for meritorious conduct, and was honorably discharged from the service in August, 1865. He came home and resumed his trade till the great fire in Chicago in 1871, when he went there and was employed as assistant superintendent in the construction of the Chamber of Commerce, Matteson House, Clifton House, Tremont Hotel and the Palmer House, on which he was employed for two years; while in Chicago, he took lessons in architecture for two years, and returned to Darke Co. in October, 1874, and opened an office in Greenville in June, 1879; he has superintended the construction of some of the best buildings in Greenville, and we can heartily recommend him to the people of Darke and adjoining counties as a gentleman and one that stands high in his profession. He was united in marriage with Mary Stines Aug. 15, 1861.

**HARROD MILLS**, farmer, stock-raiser and dealer in agricultural implements; P. O. Greenville; another of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born in Butler Co., Ohio, Aug. 8, 1821, where he was raised to agricultural pursuits; in 1833, he came to Darke Co. with his parents, and located in Twin Township, residing here until 1846, thence removed to German Township, where he followed farming and milling until 1868, at which date he came to Greenville Township, and located upon his present place, where he has since lived; he owns 153 acres in his home farm, located one and a half miles from Greenville, all under a good state of improvement with the best of farm buildings; also upward of 100 acres in other parts of the county; aside from his farming and stock-raising, he has for the past five years been engaged in the agricultural trade and, also, sale of farm machinery in Greenville; a card of his business appears in the business directory of Greenville, in another part of this work. Upon the 26th of May, 1842, he was united in marriage with Louisa Stingley; she was born in Darke Co., Dec. 25, 1821; they were the parents of eleven children—Mary E., born July 10, 1843; William H., Sept. 30, 1844; George V., March 18, 1846; Joseph W., April 1, 1848; Sarah J., Oct. 8, 1850; Martha A., Feb. 18, 1852; Emma L., Dec. 26, 1859; Idell, Nov. 17, 1861, and three deceased. Mrs. Mills is a daughter of George Stingley, one of our early pioneers, who located in Darke Co. in German Township in 1817.

**GEORGE WASHINGTON MOORE**, merchant, Greenville, was born in Warren Co., Ohio, Jan. 20, 1825; his father, Findley Moore, was a well-known teacher, whose field of service was principally in the counties of Warren, Montgomery, Butler and Preble; from him, many prominent men in those counties received their rudimentary drill; his wife was Elizabeth Dunlap, born in Middle Co., Penn. Our subject's youth was spent at the cabinet-maker's trade; he had no school privileges after he was 11 years of age; the first three years of his majority were employed as a huckster; in the fall of 1849, he went to California, and for eight years was engaged in mining and in transporting merchandise to





the mines ; in the summer of 1857. he crossed the Plains from Los Angeles to St. Joseph with a drove of wild horses and traded them off for cattle, which he fed through the winter of 1857-58. and in the spring of 1858. he sold these to the Government for the Utah expedition against the Mormons ; on his way from Los Angeles to Salt Lake City. he encamped for several days on the site of the Mountain Meadow massacre. and east of the Rocky Mountains. met and conversed with the ill-fated party respecting their hazardous journey ; in September. 1858. he located in Greenville. and. in company with his brother-in-law. Michael Miller. embarked in the dry-goods trade ; this arrangement lasted five years ; in August. 1863. he entered into his present copartnership with the Hon. John L. Winner. and for some years the dry-goods house of Moore & Winner has been the leading one in Greenville. In December. 1861. he married Miss Mary Porter. daughter of John W. Porter. Esq., of Greenville. Mr. Moore has given his exclusive attention to business. and. with the exception of local positions on the Board of Education and Town Council. has never filled any public office. Though often solicited to become a candidate for the General Assembly. he has always declined. and. in the fall of 1878. he was earnestly pressed by prominent men of all parties to allow himself to be made an independent candidate for Congress. under circumstances that gave the most flattering prospect of success. but he declined. In 1879. the Democratic Senatorial Convention for the counties of Darke. Miami and Butler. unanimously nominated him for the State Senate. and he was triumphantly elected. He is a refined and courteous gentleman of the old school. with sound sense. a clear head and unimpeachable integrity ; he is an easy. agreeable and fluent speaker. and is. in everything he is connected with. a resolute worker.

WM. H. MORNINGSTAR ; P. O. Greenville. We could hardly do justice to the business interests nor to the history of Darke Co. without devoting a brief space of this work to the above gentleman ; he was born in Greene Co., Ohio. Sept. 15. 1819. and is a son of George Morningstar. one of the early pioneers who located in the southwest part of Greenville Township in 1832 where his decease occurred in 1850. Our subject followed agricultural pursuits until 1844. when he came to Greenville and followed clerking some three years ; in 1847. he embarked in the merchandise trade. and followed different mercantile pursuits. with the exception of four years. until 1878. since which time he has devoted his attention to milling. He has taken a deep interest in the political questions of the day ; was in early days a Whig. but has been a strong Republican since the organization of the same. During the late rebellion. he was one of the leading outspoken Union men. and was the chief target for the enemies of the Government ; his sympathies for the Union was not only outspoken but active. as his service in the 152d O. N. G., will show ; his oldest son also serving in the Union army four and a half years. when he received an honorable discharge. Mr. Morningstar has been twice married ; his first wife was Elizabeth Wagoner. their nuptials being celebrated in 1848 or 1849 ; she died in 1869 ; in 1874. he was married to Frances Zell. a native of Clinton Co., Ohio. Mr. M. has resided upon his present place for upward of thirty years ; his family consists of his wife and three children. of whom Benjamin F. has occupied the position of Government mail agent for ten years. and resides near the old homestead ; John H., one of the founders and proprietors of the Greenville Commercial College. residing in Greenville. and Alice. living at home. The beautiful spot upon which is located the large and commodious house of Mr. M. is truly historical ; it lies just across the Greenville Creek. on what is known as Tecumseh's Point. and which. in early days. was the home of both Tecumseh the chief. and his brother. the Prophet. and for this reason was held sacred by the red men ; to such an extent did this feeling extend among the Indians. that when orders were issued in 1832 to remove them from their settlement at Wapaketna to their reservations beyond the Mississippi River. the officer in charge designed taking them through Miami Co. to Cincinnati. but they insisted upon being brought through Greenville. that they might once more visit the old home of their chief





and Prophet, and their request being granted, they remained several days; further mention is made of the interest of this point in the historical part of this work.

**DAVID NOGGLE**, retired farmer; residence, Section 34; P. O. Greenville. Among the old settlers of Darke Co., the gentleman whose name heads this sketch is prominently and favorably known, and is held in the highest esteem by his fellow-townsmen; he was born in Neave Township, Darke Co., Aug. 8, 1824. His father, Geo. Noggle, was born in Huntingdon Co., Penn., March 15, 1774; he married Catherine Henlein, who was born in the same State on May 26, 1777; they were among the early pioneers of Darke Co., locating here in 1812. Mr. Noggle died in Harrison Township June 28, 1852; Mrs. Noggle died March 17, 1865; they were the parents of ten children, all of whom lived to grow up. David Noggle obtained his education in a log schoolhouse, and assisted his father in farming until 20 years of age, when, upon Nov. 7, 1844, he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Gibbs, a native of Darke Co., born Sept. 20, 1827; they were the parents of four children, viz.: Martha A., born Jan. 18, 1846; Rufus G., born July 1, 1847; Mary C., Dec. 18, 1854, and Julia A., July 8, 1856. Upon the marriage of Mr. Noggle, he located upon 80 acres of land in Neave Township, and lived in a log cabin some twelve years; he then resided in Harrison Township some twelve years, when he sold out and returned to Neave Township, where he purchased 320 acres, disposing of the same in 1874, at which date he located upon his present place, where he has since lived: he now owns 80 acres, located one mile from Greenville, with the best of farm buildings. Mrs. Noggle was a daughter of David and Mary (Beal) Gibbs; her father was born in North Carolina, and came to Darke Co. about the year 1817; his death occurred in August, 1869; Mrs. Gibbs was born in Greene Co., Ohio; she died in July, 1872.

**RUFUS G. NOGGLE**, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Greenville. The subject of this memoir was born in Harrison Township, July 1, 1847, and is a son of David Noggle, whose sketch appears among the biographies of this work; our subject was raised on a farm and assisted his father till he was 21 years of age, when he commenced farming for himself; he now owns 150 acres of land, all under a good state of cultivation, with good farm improvements; he obtained a common-school education in his youth. He was married to Angie Kerst Dec. 26, 1867; she was born Aug. 31, 1848, and is a daughter of Samuel Kerst, a native of Pennsylvania. He died in Darke County upward of 60 years of age; her mother is now living, and resides in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Noggle are the parents of one child—Charley C., born Feb. 26, 1875.

**CURTIS OTWELL**, physician and surgeon; Greenville: was born in Guilford Co., N. C., March 19, 1806; his father, James Otwell, was a native of Sussex Co., Del., and his mother, Eleanor Reynolds, of Guilford County; she was of Scotch-Irish parentage, and the descendant of a Quaker, who came to this country with William Penn. James Otwell was a slaveholder, but emancipated his slaves near the beginning of the present century; he died in 1830, aged 52, and his wife soon followed him. The family comprised five children, of whom our subject was the only son; at an early age, he evinced a great thirst for learning, and made a practice of carrying a book in his pocket to study in intervals of leisure; when a youth of 18, he was appointed Constable of his native county, and while executing the duties of his office, he read thousands of pages of history while going over the county on horseback; by thus improving his spare moments, he put in years of study, and supplemented a common-school course with higher attainments, including some knowledge of the Latin language; he says that "he was quite proud of his position as Constable, from the fact that Gen. Jackson was once Constable of the same county." In 1824, he married Eunice S. Wilson, of his native county; her father, Michael Wilson, was born on the ocean, of Irish parents, and reared in North Carolina; after his marriage, he read medicine, and, in the spring of 1832, moved to Wayne County, Ind., where he practiced his profession eight years; in the fall of 1840, he settled in Darke





County, and purchased a flouring-mill in Neave Township, and superintended the same for thirty years, continuing his professional practice; in the year 1844, in connection with a prominent farmer of the neighborhood, he erected a schoolhouse near his mill, and engaged teachers competent to teach higher mathematics and languages. It was known for years as "Otwell's Seminary," and numbers of the prominent men of the county came here for their higher education; among the instructors in this school were Calvin Parker and Samuel McClure, who were well known as teachers a quarter of a century ago. In 1846, Dr. Otwell graduated from the Ohio Medical College in Cincinnati, and in 1848 located in Greenville, where he has since followed his profession; he is the father of four sons and four daughters; two of the latter deceased. Three of the sons are practicing medicine in Darke County; the eldest son is editor and proprietor of the *Greenville Journal*. Dr. Otwell has had a very extensive and successful practice, and has been the preceptor of perhaps one-half of the physicians in Greenville and the surrounding country.

JOHN O'CONNOR, carriage manufacturer, Greenville; was born in Windsor, Canada, Oct. 12, 1843. His father and mother came from Ireland; when our subject was about 9 months old, they came to Springfield, Ohio; they lived in Clark, Greene and Champaign Cos. until the winter of 1852, when they moved to Jackson Township, Darke Co. In 1853, they moved to Randolph Co., Ind., where they lived until 1856, when they moved to Franklin Township, Darke Co., on the farm now owned by Henry Koon; afterward on the farm now owned by John Wright, where they lived until 1857, when they moved on land now owned by Christian Grauf, in Franklin Township, where they cleared a farm of 78 acres. In September, 1862, John enlisted in Co. G, 110th O. V. I., under Capt. J. C. Ullery; served with the regiment through West Virginia, in Gen. Milroy's command; was taken prisoner at the battle of Winchester, and taken successively to Staunton, Libby and Belle Isle; after much hardship, he was exchanged and rejoined his regiment at Culpeper, Oct. 7, 1863; was with his regiment in all its retreats and advances in the old Third Corps, Third Division; after the re-organization of the army, was put in the Sixth Corps under Gen. Ricketts, where he participated in Grant's campaign before Petersburg; went to Maryland, under Lew Wallace, at Monocacy; afterward with Sheridan in his campaign, and on Dec. 3, 1864, returned to south of Petersburg, and participated in the final assault on the 2d of April, 1865; was at the battle of Sailor's Creek April 6, 1865; was present at the surrender of Lee's army at Appomattox, and was mustered out of service July 1, 1865. He worked on the farm one year, and in the fall of 1866 he engaged in the carriage and wagon business with J. R. Hyer, at Painter's Creek. He was married to Delilah Marker April 4, 1869; in March, 1873, moved to Bradford, where he engaged more extensively in the above business, until June, 1876, when he removed to Greenville, where he now carries on an extensive business in the manufacturing of carriages. There have been born to him five children, viz.: John T., Edward A., Mary, Charles J. and Jacob Ira; the last named lived but two months. Mr. O'Connor is a man of strict integrity, and his fine social qualities have made him hosts of friends.

LOUIS OLLMETZER, Greenville.

OLIVER CLINTON PERRY, ex-Auditor; Greenville. The subject of this memoir was born in Miami Co., Ohio, Feb. 28, 1830, and is a son of Nathan W. and Isabella (Buchanan) Perry, who moved their family to Darke Co., and located in Washington Township, in September, 1833, where they settled in the midst of comparatively early settlers, who were struggling with poverty and heavy timber. Oliver, with other children of that portion of the county, had poor advantages of an early education, but, by close application to his studies when an opportunity offered, acquired a good common-school education that enabled him to engage in school teaching when quite young, and for several years he was employed as salesman in the dry-goods business; he served as Deputy Clerk of the





Court in 1867, and was elected Auditor and served in said office for nearly five years. During his term of office the system of building free turnpikes was inaugurated, and over thirty miles built in the county. The county jail was also built and the contracting, and the greater part of the present court house was constructed, in all of which improvements he took a deep interest and active part, being friendly to and indorsing the great improvements of the county. In politics he is a strong Democrat, from both education and honest conviction; during the rebellion he denounced secession and advocated a vigorous prosecution of the war for the restoration of the Union.

**WALLACE PLESSINGER**, farmer and butcher; P. O. Greenville. Among the old settlers of Darke Co., this gentleman is entitled to more than a passing notice; he was born in Richland Township, this county, Aug. 6, 1847; his grandfather, Philip Plessinger, was among the very early pioneers of Darke Co.; emigrating from Pennsylvania, and locating in Richland Township, about the year 1815, and his was the second or third white family that settled in the township; here he lived until his death, which occurred July 4, 1860, at about 90 years of age, and upon the place where he located nearly half a century previous; Solomon Plessinger (our subject's father) was the youngest of the above family; he was born either in Lancaster Co., Penn., or in Richland Township. Soon after the arrival of the family here, he married Rebecca Jackson, a native of Maryland, near Baltimore; she is now living in Richland Township; they were the parents of six children, three of whom now survive; Mr. Plessinger died Dec. 27, 1861; our subject then being only 14 years of age, and being the only surviving son, the responsibility, management and improvement of the farm fell upon him, and nobly did he perform this duty until 1869 when, upon the 27th of October, he was united in marriage with Carrie Jackson; she was born in Shelby Co. in 1846; they are the parents of four sons and four daughters, all of whom are now living, the family circle having never been broken by death. Their children are Estella, Ida May, Frank N., Flora, Fred, Melvin, Edith and Charles W. Upon the marriage of Plessinger, he continued farming in Richland Township until the spring of 1874, when he purchased 80 acres of land in Adams Township, where he located; in December, 1879, he purchased his present place of business in Greenville, and engaged in the butcher trade, designing to move his family to town in February, 1880, that he might have better facilities for churches and the education of his children. A card of his business is to be found in the business directory in another part of this work. It may be truly said of the above gentleman, that he is one of the self-made men of Darke Co.; left fatherless at 14 years of age, he has battled against the hardships of the cold world, and by his own hard labor secured a good property.

**WILLIAM REED**, farmer and proprietor of Reed's saw-mill; P. O. Greenville; another of our self-made men, born in the county of Antrim, Ireland, Dec. 14, 1831, where he obtained his education in the subscription schools, and followed farming and weaving until 18 years of age, when he emigrated to America, landing in New York in 1849; coming directly West, he followed various pursuits for a time in Michigan, and after a few years' residence in Missouri and Indiana, came to Ohio, and until 1861, was employed in farming and working in saw mills in Hamilton Co.; in 1861, he came to Darke Co. and located in Neave Township; in 1872, he located upon his present place, and purchased 160 acres to which he has since added until he now owns 230 acres, and has brought a large part of the same, which was at the time a howling wilderness, to a good state of cultivation, by his own hard labor; he erected his steam saw-mill in 1872, and has since successfully run the saw-mill in connection with farming; Mr. Reed arrived in New York with very little money, and was robbed of all save one penny; he then borrowed the means to take him to Michigan, and paid the same back from his wages at \$15 per month; the writer of this article has been informed by friends of the above gentleman of the misfortunes of Mr. Reed in losing a large part of his hard earnings by the "sharp" (?) practice of a certain professional gentleman;





in 1876, he visited the land of his birth : during the voyage, in the steamer Scotland, they ran into and sank another vessel near Sandy Hook ; returning in the city of Antwerp, he also experienced another accident of the same nature. Wm. Reed and Sarah Lowery, were married March 18, 1867 ; she died June 5, 1874 ; four sons were the fruit of this union, viz. : John R., born March 11, 1868 ; William H., Nov. 1, 1869 ; David L., Jan. 7, 1872 ; Clifford, May 25, 1874 ; his marriage with Christiana Howard was celebrated Sep. 22, 1876 ; she was born in Preble Co., Ohio, Aug. 1, 1846 ; they had two children by this union—Walter H., born March 19, 1878, and an infant born Oct. 22, 1879. Mr. Reed was raised a Presbyterian, his first wife being of the same belief, his present wife being a member of the Christian Church : the mother of Mrs. Reed was a daughter of John Porter, who was born in Pennsylvania and removed to Kentucky in 1830, thence to Darke Co. at a very early day, living here several years, and died in Kentucky in 1846.

F. REHLING, dealer in stoves, tinware, house-furnishing goods, etc., etc., Greenville ; is another of the self-made men of Darke Co. ; born in Hesse, Germany, May 27, 1837, where he received a good German education ; at 16 years of age, he emigrated to America, landing in New York June 5, 1853 ; coming directly West, he arrived in Greenville without means, he then obtained employment in the Fairview Hotel, at \$6 per month, and for three years was employed in the hotel business ; he then served three years' apprenticeship to learn the trade of tinner, and after completing his trade, he worked eleven years as journeyman ; in 1868, he engaged in the above business, and in 1870 was unfortunate in business, losing all his capital ; he then worked at the bench three years when he started his present business, which he has since successfully followed ; he feels perfectly safe in saying that he carries the largest stock of goods and does a more extensive trade in his line than any one in Greenville, and is one of our most enterprising and respected citizens. His marriage with Josephine Craig was celebrated in 1862 ; they have six children now living, viz. : Wesley, William, Henry T., James F., Archie and Sophia E.

WILLIAM REQUARTH, farmer and stock-raiser ; residence Sec. 29, Township 10, Range 3 east ; P. O. Greenville ; born in Hesse, Germany, Sept. 22, 1833, where he attended the schools continually from 6 to 14 years of age ; he is the son of John H. Requarth, who was a native of the same place, born Jan. 9, 1796, and emigrated to America, landing in New York, Jan. 8, 1848, and is now living (at this date, 1879) at the advanced age of 84 years ; Wm. Requarth came to America and to Ohio with his parents in 1848 ; he assisted his father until 23 years of age, after which he was employed at farming and blacksmithing a few years, and upon the 5th of May, 1859. He was married to Wilhemia Ostermeier ; she was born Feb. 22, 1834, in Hesse, Germany ; they are the parents of six sons and four daughters, viz., William, Henry, John, Frank, Charlie, Louisa, Mena, Caroline, Mollie and August ; the latter died in infancy. Mr. Requarth is one of the self-made men of Darke Co. : he has been a resident of the county since 1865, owns 123 acres of good land with good, farm-buildings valued at about \$10,000, all of which he has made by his own hard labor ; he has held the office of Supervisor two terms, School Director two terms, and is now one of the Trustees of Greenville Township.

FRED C. REQUARTH, brick-manufacturer ; P. O. Greenville. This gentleman is a native of Germany ; born in Hesse July 1, 1841. He is a son of Henry Requarth, who emigrated to America with his family when our subject was only 6 years old. He landed in New York City, and from there came directly to Montgomery Co. and located in Clay Township ; he is the father of sixteen children. Our subject remained at home, assisting his father on the farm in summer, and devoting the winter to acquisition of knowledge in common schools till he was 14 years of age ; at this time he was apprenticed to learn the shoemaker's trade, and served a term of three years ; he pursued his profession continually





for the succeeding fourteen years. He then began the manufacturing of brick in the summer, and continued his trade through the winter months. He served his apprenticeship in Dayton, Ohio, and remained there the most of the time till he came here in 1872 and settled on the place where he now resides; he has an extensive brick-factory. He celebrated his marriage with Miss Louisa Steinbrigge July 12, 1862; she is also a native of Germany; seven children have been born to the family, all living, viz.: Rosa, born May 10, 1863; Emma, Sept. 11, 1865; Henry, Feb. 19, 1868; Augusta, — 18, 1870; Mary, Nov. 12, 1873; Ida, Sept. 1, 1876, and Freddie, born Nov. 2, 1878.

ABRAHAM RHOADES, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Greenville; one of the settlers of 1854: he was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Feb. 8, 1832: he was a son of Jacob Rhoades, who was born in Bedford Co. Penn., and came to Montgomery Co., Ohio, when 5 years of age, and is now living, at about 76 years of age. He married Barbara Soudurs; she died about the year 1849. The subject of this sketch was raised to agricultural pursuits, and in 1854 came to Darke Co. and purchased 80 acres of the present place, to which he has since added by purchase, until he now owns, his home farm, with the best of farm buildings; he also owns 106 acres of land in Mercer Co., besides one lot and one-half interest in two business houses in Greenville, and an interest in the National Bank of Greenville, all of which, save \$200, he has secured by his own exertions and correct business habits. It can be truly said of him that he is one of the self-made men of Darke Co. Upon the 27th of April, 1856, he was united in marriage with Mary Pitsenberger; she was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Jan. 23, 1832; they were the parents of seven children, viz.: Susannah, born Feb. 24, 1857, died Dec. 17, 1866; Jacob, March 9, 1859; Matilda A., May 12, 1861; Elizabeth, April 29, 1863; Stephen, Nov. 29, 1865; Minnie, Dec. 6, 1869, and Curtis, born March 17, 1873. Mrs. Rhoades was a daughter of Jacob Pitsenberger; he was born in Pennsylvania Aug. 18, 1802; came to Ohio in 1811, and to Darke Co. about the year 1848; the last years of his life he lived in Greenville retired from business; he died Sept. 24, 1878. The mother of Mrs. Rhoades was Susanna Miller, born April 24, 1804, and died upon the anniversary, April 24, 1859.

CHARLES ROLAND, journalist; Greenville; was born in Washington Co., Ohio, Aug. 6, 1831: he was left an orphan when an infant, and was reared in the family of a friend in Fairfield Co., Ohio; his boyhood was passed on a farm, receiving only a meager common-school education, which terminated at the age of 14, when he entered the office of the *Ohio Eagle*, at Lancaster, where he learned the printing business and remained several years; in 1856, he became a partner in the ownership of the paper with John M. Connell, subsequently Colonel of the 17th O. V. I.; in the latter part of 1861, Mr. Roland became sole proprietor and conducted that journal till the spring of 1866, when he disposed of the *Eagle* and purchased the *Greenville Democrat*, of which he has since been editor and proprietor; when he took charge of the *Democrat* it was a small, poorly printed sheet, with a patronage too limited for support; it is now the largest folio in the State, is conducted with ability, circulates widely, and has yielded its owner a handsome income. Mr. Roland has always been a stanch Democrat, and during his management of the *Eagle* it was a bold, outspoken sheet; upon the opening of the late war, its editor, for taking exceptions to the manner in which the war was being conducted, in the fall of 1862, was summoned by Gov. Tod to an interview in his office at Columbus; he at once presented himself before the Governor, having with him three prominent citizens of Lancaster, as witnesses of what might transpire. The Governor complained that the tone of his paper was disloyal and tended to discourage enlistments, and stated that his first impulse had been to suppress the paper and send its editor to Fort Warren. Mr. Roland replied, that he had taken for his guide the Constitution and laws of the country, and that of two meetings in the same week, at Lancaster, by Republicans and Democrats.





respectively, at the former five men enlisted, and at the latter thirteen. The interview closed by a threat somewhat excitedly expressed by the Governor, in these words: "Constitution and laws or not, unless the tone of your paper is changed it will be suppressed, and you will be sent to Fort Warren; I have the backbone to do it." Mr. Roland returned to Lancaster and published an attested account of the interview in the next issue of his paper, and continued to publish his views of the eventful struggle, and was not molested. In 1851, he married Amelia, daughter of Lewis Clark, of Lancaster, and four sons and five daughters are the issue of the union; the eldest son, Arthur A. Roland, is editor and publisher of the *Lebanon Patriot*.

**JERY RUNKEL**, Sheriff; Greenville. Among the self-made men of Darke County we are pleased to make mention of the above gentleman; he was born in Fairfield Co., Ohio, Aug. 15, 1835; came to Darke County with his parents when quite young; he was left an orphan when 9 years of age; thrown upon his own resources and commenced the struggle of life alone; he lived in Butler Township from 1844 to 1855, at which time he purchased a farm of forty acres in Harrison Township, upon which he then located and resided until Jan. 1, 1880, when he removed to Greenville; in the spring of 1879 he received the nomination for Sheriff upon the Democratic ticket, elected October following by a majority of 675 votes. His marriage with Isabella Hindsley was celebrated in Harrison Township, Darke County, in 1857; they have four children now living, having lost two by death; the living are William H., Joseph E., Frances G. and Edith R.

**ISAAC RUSH**, retired farmer; P. O. Greenville. Among the early pioneers of Darke County the gentleman whose name heads this sketch is entitled to a place in the front ranks; he was born in Trenton, Butler Co., Ohio, Dec. 8, 1815; he was a son of Jacob Rush, who was born in Pennsylvania, and was among the early pioneers of Darke County; locating here in 1829 upon the place where Isaac Rush now lives; in 1830 he entered this land, where he passed the remainder of his days; his death occurring in 1842. He married Jemima House in Butler County; she was born in Warren County, and died in Darke County in 1854; they were the parents of seven children, of whom three are deceased. Isaac Rush came to Darke County in 1829, Greenville, at that time, containing very few buildings, a large part of the land upon which the city now stands being covered by a dense thicket; he assisted his father until 1836, when he devoted four years to carpentering, and in 1840 took charge of the home farm, upon which he has lived, with the exception of the above four years, for a period of half a century; he now has 85 acres reaching to the corporation limits, a part of which he has refused \$300 per acre for, during his residence here he has witnessed the marvelous growth of a town of some two hundred inhabitants, spread out to be a city of some four thousand, and which has already extended to, and obtained a foothold upon his farm. He married Nancy Swisher in August, 1843; she was born in Montgomery County, and in 1830 came to Darke County; they are the parents of five children, viz., Mary, Abram, John, Ie and Alaska.

**ANDREW T. RUSH**, manufacturer, Greenville; firm of Rush & Eby, proprietors of the Greenville Agricultural Works; Mr. R. is one of the oldest citizens of Darke County, being born in this township April 11, 1831, and is a son of W. H. Rush, a native of Pennsylvania, who located here in 1812; he died about the year 1873; the subject of our sketch was raised to farming, which occupation he has always followed in connection with milling, during which time he was also agent for the D. & U. R. R. at Rush Station, which was named in honor of his father. Upon the 18th of March, 1866, he was married to Anna Byrom, born in Washington Township April 18, 1839; she was a daughter of Silas Byrom, also an old settler; they have three children by this union, viz., Sarah O., Wm. A. and an infant. In the year 1879, the firm of Rush & Eby was organized for the purpose of supplying a long-felt want of Darke County. Their business will be chiefly confined





to the manufacture of plows and all kinds of agricultural implements ; they also give special attention to repairing of the same. Mr. Wm. Eby, the junior member of the above firm is a gentleman thoroughly educated in every detail of his business, and we find his reputation and skill as a superior workman is already established in Greenville. A card of their business will be found in another part of work and is the first agricultural works of Greenville.

HENRY ST. CLAIR, merchant ; Greenville : dealer in groceries, provisions, produce, glass and queensware, etc., etc. Greenville, like most cities of its size, has its representative business men in nearly all branches of trade, and while it has several good stores in the above line, it is conceded by all, that the leading grocery house of Greenville is that of Henry St. Clair, who is one of the most enterprising, energetic and active business men of the place, and has by the above traits of character, combined with honorable and fair dealing, during the past eight years, built up the largest grocery trade done by any one house in Darke County : he carries a large stock, selected with care, which would do credit to any large city. He has had a steady yearly increase of trade ; his sales for the year 1878 being upward of \$200,000. Mr. St. Clair was born in Seneca Co., N. Y., upon the 7th of May, 1852 ; when 3 years of age, he emigrated to Darke County with his parents, and, after a residence of seven years, removed to Cincinnati, and was educated in the public schools, and completed his education by a course of instruction in the Commercial College ; at 16 years of age, he accepted a position as book-keeper in a large wholesale house in Cincinnati with which he remained four years ; in 1872, he came to Greenville and engaged in his present business. A card of his business will be found in the business directory of Greenville, in another part of this work. His marriage with Ella S. Van Dyke was celebrated Feb. 4, 1875 ; she was born in Glendale, Hamilton Co., Ohio, in 1853.

WILLIAM SCHAFER, farmer and stock-raiser ; P. O. Greenville ; was born in Prussia, Germany, Sept. 2, 1833, where he followed farming until 20 years of age, when he emigrated to America, landing in New Orleans in 1853 ; he then came to Montgomery County and to Dayton and followed various pursuits in the above county until March, 1865, when he came to Darke County and purchased his present place ; he now has 84 acres with the best of farm buildings ; he landed in Dayton with a capital of \$3.00, and has by his own hard labor and correct business habits, secured all of the above property ; in 1877, he was elected one of the Directors of the county infirmary, which office he now holds ; has been a member of the Lutheran Church thirty-two years ; has suffered great affliction in his family, having lost five of his eight children by death. Upon the 1st of December, 1859, he was united in marriage with Mary Schermer ; she was born in Auglaize Co., Ohio, in 1835 ; they were the parents of eight children, viz., Mary, born Feb. 3, 1861 ; William, born June 17, 1863, died Aug. 16, 1864 ; Katie, born Aug. 3, 1865, died May 8, 1876 ; Menie, born Aug. 29, 1867, died March 14, 1870 ; Louisa, born Dec. 10, 1869, died in 1871 ; John, born Feb. 17, 1872 ; Susie, born July 7, 1874 ; Harvey, born Oct. 4, 1876, died Feb. 1, 1879.

JACOB O. SCHELL, biographical historian, Greenville, is a son of Joshua Schell, and a grandson of Jacob and Elizabeth (Caylor) Schell ; he was born in Pennsylvania Oct. 14, 1779 ; and she, Dec. 19, 1784 ; they were the parents of twelve children ; six died in infancy, and six grew to maturity ; these were Elizabeth, born March 27, 1807 ; George, March 15, 1809 ; Joshua, July 29, 1811 ; Sophia, Jan. 2, 1815 ; Nancy, July 30, 1819 ; and Jacob, Jan. 19, 1827. They left Pennsylvania Oct. 14, 1830, and came to Ohio in a one-horse wagon, this was so crowded with their household goods that there was room for but one passenger ; the mother and the youngest son occupied, by turns, the vacant space in the wagon ; Jacob was not 4 years old, yet he walked a good portion of the way, and no doubt made a grotesque appearance, in his red linsey dress and cap of rabbit skins. Elizabeth was married to Joseph Fourman and came to this State at the same time in a wagon





of their own; they traveled from twelve to twenty-two miles per day; in twenty-eight days they reached Montgomery County and stopped for a few days with Jacob Ryder near Liberty, and then went six miles below Hamilton to John Redsecker, who furnished them with an old log house to live in. When they landed, their stock consisted of the one-horse load of household goods, horse and wagon, and some less than \$1 in money. They bought some 30 acres of timber land, and the next fall built a house and settled on their new home. It was mainly by the energy and economy of the two oldest boys that they were enabled to pay for this and improve it; George stayed at home till 25 years of age, and Joshua till 23 years old; they and their father were carpenters, and worked for 75 cents a day. In 1850, they sold their little home for \$1,500, and afterward bought 92 acres in Clay Township, Montgomery Co., near West Baltimore; here he died Aug. 4, 1861. His widow then went to live with her son Joshua (who since the fall of 1851 had lived in Darke Co.), where she died Aug. 31, 1868. In 1839, Jan. 10, Joshua Schell was united in marriage with Mary White, born in Pennsylvania, Feb. 29, 1820; she is a daughter of Jacob White, who died a few years ago in Indiana, at the advanced age of 93 years. Joshua and Mary Schell were the parents of ten children—Amanda, born in Butler Co., Ohio, Aug. 30, 1839; Ann Elizabeth, Aug. 5, 1841; Mary F., Aug. 5, 1844; Sophy, Sept. 2, 1846; Jacob O., Sept. 25, 1849; Adin H., born in Darke Co., Ohio, March 22, 1852; Nancy E., July 15, 1854; Joseph W., Sept. 24, 1856; Aurelia C., Nov. 28, 1860, and Milo M., Feb. 18, 1863. Five of these are married and have had in all nineteen children, of which seventeen are living. The subject of this sketch was brought up on the farm, and received a good common-school education; in the fall of 1869, he commenced teaching, and continued to teach in the winter season for several years, and attended school during the summer, or worked at the carpenter's trade. On the 17th of June, 1875, just 100 years after the battle of Bunker Hill, he completed the English normal course at the Ohio Central Normal School at Worthington. On the 19th of June of the same year, he married Elizabeth R. Mundhenk, a daughter of Philip Mundhenk, whose biography appears in this volume; she was born Feb. 16, 1853; for several years she also was engaged in teaching. In the fall of 1875, they moved to Gettysburg, Darke Co., Ohio, and taught the schools of that place; the following year, they moved to Arcanum and remained three years; here their daughter, Judith Opal, was born Aug. 9, 1877. They are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, in which he was brought up. On Oct. 22, 1879, they moved to Greenville, and he is now one of the solicitors for this work.

WILLIAM H. SCHULTZ, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Greenville; born in the State of Maryland Sept. 7, 1843; here he was engaged in various pursuits until 1863, at which date he emigrated to Darke Co., Ohio, and for two years was employed as a farm laborer. Upon the 8th of April, 1865, he was united in marriage with Martha A. Noggle; she was born in Darke Co., Jan. 18, 1846; they have three children—Mary E., born March 1, 1869; Margaret F., born Aug. 21, 1872, and Julia P., born Jan. 13, 1875. Mr. Schultz purchased his present place of 120 acres in 1867; it is valued at about \$10,000, nearly all of which he has accumulated by his own hard labor and correct business habits; he was a son of Frederick Schultz, who was born in Pennsylvania and died in Maryland in February, 1876; he married Mary P. Poblitz, also a native of Pennsylvania; she died in 1877. The wife of the subject of this sketch is a daughter of David Noggle, one of the old settlers of Darke Co., and who is prominently mentioned in this work.

JOHN H. SCHWABLE, proprietor of Turpen House billiard hall and sample room, Greenville, Ohio; born in Seneca Co., Ohio, March 10, 1850; he was left an orphan when quite young, and has since made his way through the world alone; when 10 years of age, he went to Piqua, Miami Co., and after attending the public schools two years, learned, and worked at the baker's trade five years,





and in 1872 came to Greenville, and for five years was employed as clerk of the Wagner House; in November, 1877, he purchased his present place of business, which he has since successfully followed. Mr. Schwable is very genial, gentlemanly and courteous to his large and increasing trade, and gives his personal attention to his business in all its details. Upon the 24th of April, 1877, he was united in marriage with Mary Haas; she was born in Germany; they have two children.—Henry L. and Frank J.

**JOHN SEBRING**, farmer, Sec. 1, P. O. Greenville. This gentleman is another of the early pioneers of this county; he was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 20, 1816, and is the son of Jacob Sebring, who was born in New Jersey, December, 1776. In the latter part of the eighteenth century, he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Smalley, who was also a native of New Jersey; they were the parents of eight children, five of whom are still living; he emigrated West in 1816, locating temporarily near Cincinnati, Ohio; after remaining here a few years, he removed with his family in 1821 to this county, settling upon a piece of land located in the same section on which our subject now resides; at this time, this county was covered with a vast stretch of wilderness, with only here and there a spot cleared off large enough to erect a log cabin; to assist his father to clear away the dense forests and cultivate the soil gave our subject ample employment till he was 21 years of age; educational facilities were then very meager, but he availed himself of all the advantages then offered in this direction, acquiring for himself a common-school education. He has been twice married, first to Matilda Clark, Nov. 23, 1837; they were the parents of five children, three of whom are still living; the father and children were soon called upon to mourn the loss of an affectionate wife and loving mother. About five years later, Mr. Sebring celebrated his second marriage, with Malinda Gower, Nov. 15, 1858; they are the parents of three children, all of whom the swift messenger of death has visited and consigned to the silent tomb; he now owns a beautiful farm, the result of his own industry and frugality, assisted by his kind companions, and is surrounded with everything that tends to lighten the burdens of declining life.

**IRA SEBRING**, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 1; P. O. Greenville. To the subject of this memoir we are pleased to accord a place to one of Darke Co.'s permanent settlers; he was born in this township Dec. 8, 1846, and is a son of John and Matilda Sebring, who were among the early pioneers of this county, and who gave civilization, improvement and refinement a foothold in the vast wilderness of Ohio; they settled here in this township in 1823, and he has been a resident here ever since, having lived here continuously for fifty-seven years, and is now in declining health, as strength and vigor are gradually fading away; Mrs. Sebring departed this life twenty-five years ago; they were the parents of five children, of whom three are now living, viz., Angeline, Malinda and our subject, who was raised a farmer boy, and assisted his father in agricultural pursuits till his 18th year, when he began life for himself and engaged in farming; through his own exertions, he stored his mind with useful information, and was prepared to enter the field of labor in imparting knowledge; he has successfully labored in the schoolroom at irregular intervals for nine years, and is among the successful educators of the county; he has 65 acres of fine land where he resides, all under a good state of cultivation, and his improvements are number one and comfortable in every way. he entered the race of life with a very small capital, and by energy, perseverance and good management, he has made a good home, and is surrounded by all the comforts of life. He was united in marriage with Joanna, daughter of Samuel and Ella Dunn, Aug. 1, 1867; they were natives of Maryland; afterward residents of Clark and Greene Cos., Ohio, and settled in Darke Co. in 1866, where they now reside; Mr. and Mrs. Sebring were the parents of five children, viz.: Samuel J., born Nov. 7, 1868, died Feb. 12, 1871; Elldatta, born Sept. 27, 1870; Oraceta May, born May 26, 1873, died Jan. 2, 1880; Vinnie V., born Oct. 30, 1875; Kath V., born Feb. 10, 1878; they have been very unfortunate in raising their children.





as that dreadful scourge, the scarlet fever, has carried two of their little ones from their embrace. Mr. S. has been a member of the Reformed Church for six years, and his amiable wife for a period of eight years; they are exemplary Christian people, and through their faith they see the gateway of entrance whereby they can be re-united with the little ones that have gone before them.

C. J. SHADE, farmer; P. O. Greenville; although a young man, the above gentleman may be classed among the old settlers, this being his native county, and his birth occurred in 1844; he is a son of A. R. and Sarah Shade, who were among the early settlers, locating in this county in the year 1820, when there were but few improvements, no pikes, and but few roads were passable save on horseback: the dense forest where they located has since been cleared, and in its place is found fine cultivated farms; at that early day, there was also plenty of game; deer, wild turkeys, wolves, etc., were to be seen in large numbers; the early life of our subject was that of a farmer's son, his education being confined mostly to the privileges offered by the common schools. His marriage with Mary Anderson was celebrated in Randolph Co., Ind., in 1865; they have three children by this union—Sarah Catharine, Charles A. B., and Mary Eveline.

HENRY SHOVER, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Greenville; another of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born in York Township April 4, 1836; he was the youngest son of Sebastian Shover, who was probably born in Pennsylvania, and came to Montgomery Co. when quite young, and to Darke Co. about the year 1832; he died in York Township in 1840; he married in Montgomery Co. to Margaret Weaver; she was born in Pennsylvania and died in Darke Co. in 1869. The subject of this memoir was left fatherless when 4 years of age, after which he lived with his mother until 10 years of age; he then made his home with his Grandfather Weaver, until 15 years of age, when he started out in the world for himself and served three years at the blacksmith's trade, after which he came to Greenville and was employed four years at his trade; he then started in business for himself, and was engaged at his trade some thirteen years, when, in the spring of 1863, he gave up his business and purchased his present place, where he has since lived; he has 40 acres of land, with good farm buildings, located two miles from Greenville, under a good state of cultivation; his marriage with Angeline Sebring was celebrated Sept. 16, 1858; she was born in Greenville Township, Darke Co., Sept. 27, 1838; they have no children of their own, but have taken to raise a girl now 8 years old, whom they treat and educate as their own. Mrs. S. is a daughter of John Sebring, whose sketch appears among the biographies of Greenville Township in this work.

GEO. W. SNYDER, farmer and stock-raiser, Section 19, Greenville Township; P. O. Mt. Heron. Among the early settlers of Darke Co. we mention the gentleman whose name heads this sketch; he was born in Hamilton Co., Ohio, June 5, 1830; he was a son of Geo. Snyder, who was born in Pennsylvania July 4, 1804. He married Elizabeth Dively; she was born Oct. 9, 1799, in Pennsylvania; he located in Hamilton Co. when there was but three or four log houses where Cincinnati now stands; in 1836, came to Darke Co., and in 1873 he started West, since which time all trace of him has been lost. Mrs. Snyder died Sept. 13, 1839. They were the parents of six children, viz.: George W., Elizabeth A. and Martha J. (triplets), born June 5, 1830; Mary A., born Jan. 30, 1834, deceased; Abraham, born Jan. 27, 1836, and Frederick, born Aug. 21, 1838. At 9 years of age, Geo. W. was taken and raised by Emanuel Flory until 20 years of age, and by dint of hard study obtained a fair education; at the latter age, he went to Greenville and devoted three years to carriage-making; he then started in the above business for himself, in connection with undertaking, at Hill Grove, following the same three years, during which time he did all of the undertaking for Union City; in 1857, he purchased the farm now owned by Samuel Puterbaugh, and after clearing some 70 or 80 acres, sold out in 1865 and purchased his present place; he now owns 150 acres four miles west from Greenville, with good farm





buildings; he has secured all of the above property, valued at from \$10,000 to \$12,000, by his own hard labor. He married Catherine Puterbaugh July 4, 1852; four children by this union—Amy E., born April 22, 1854; Lauretta J., Oct. 22, 1855; Frederick B., Aug. 18, 1856, and Fernando, July 16, 1860. March 23, 1865, he was united in marriage with Julia Ann Sink; she was born in Darke Co. June 4, 1845; five children was the fruits of this union—Lewis E., born June 23, 1866, died May 15, 1867; Jacob E., born May 8, 1868; Mary L., Jan. 10, 1871; Nora Rosa Ellen, Sept. 27, 1873, and Murtle L., June 1, 1876.

ANDREW J. SMITH, barber and hair-dresser, Greenville; was born in Fredericksburg, Va., Oct. 5, 1828, and is a son of Robert and Sarah Smith, who are still living and reside in Piqua, and are upward of 80 years of age. Our subject came to Greenville, May 6, 1859, and has followed his profession ever since; he has been very successful in business, having accumulated a good property, all the fruit of his own hard labor. He is one of the leading tonsorial artists, and we can advise any who want a good, clean and easy shave to give Andy a trial.

O. H. SMITH, Greenville, Ohio; dealer in stoves and tinware. The subject of this memoir was born in Winchester, Randolph Co., Ind., in 1855, and is a son of Jeremiah and Cynthia Smith, residents of Randolph Co.; both are dead; his father died in 1872 at the age of 68 years; his mother died in 1873, aged 54 years. Our subject resided at home till he was 17 years of age, when he began life for himself and followed various pursuits; he removed to Greenville in 1877 and opened a hardware store, which business he is still engaged in. He was united in marriage in 1878, Dec. 24, to Miss Voria Southern; her parents are residents of this place.

JACOB STEINLE, Greenville, Ohio; manufacturer and dealer in cigars and tobacco. The subject of this memoir was born in Shelby Co., Ohio, Feb. 25, 1854; in 1867, he commenced the cigar trade, and followed the same for two years in La Crosse, Wis.; thence to Vandalia, Ill., for a short time; thence to Indianapolis, Ind., where he followed his trade seven years, and in June, 1877, came to Greenville and engaged in his present business, which he has since successfully followed. He is a practical cigar-maker, and gives his personal attention to every detail of his business, and has in his employ the year round from two to six men. His marriage with Emma S. Reeder was celebrated in Indianapolis, Ind., in 1875; they have two children, John H. and Anna.

JOHN STEPHENS, blacksmith, Sec. 5; P. O. Greenville; another of the old settlers; born in Darke Co., German Township, Nov. 11, 1825; he was a son of David Stephens, one of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; he was born in Washington Co., Penn., Nov. 1, 1791; he came to Jefferson Co., Ohio, with his parents in 1798, four years before Ohio was admitted into the Union as a State; he came to Preble Co. in 1805 and to Darke Co., 1818; he was a soldier in the war of 1812, serving a part of the time as scout between Fort Nesbit and Fort Recovery, and was in the memorable forced march from Fort Greenville to Muncie, Ind., in the winter of 1814, to relieve Isaac Shelly and Gen. Winchester, Kentuckians, who were out of rations, and was compelled to stand guard half the night in snow knee-deep, without anything to eat; he was, so far as known, the last surviving one living in this county who served at Fort Greenville; he suffered all the hardships and privations of frontier life, and by industry and economy secured a handsome competence; he was a man of sterling will and integrity, and won the esteem of all who knew him; in early life, he joined the Church of the United Brethren, and in 1861 or 1862 connected himself with the Reformed Church, and lived a consistent Christian life until his death, which occurred Jan. 8, 1879, aged 87 years, 2 months and 8 days. He was married in Darke Co. to Lydia Wagner; she was born in the year 1803; she is now living in German Township, at the advanced age of 77 years; they were the parents of ten children, of whom seven are now living. The subject of this sketch commenced to learn





the blacksmithing trade at Palestine when 19 years of age, and worked at his trade in German Township, with the exception of six months' residence in Indiana, until about the year 1847, when he removed to Neave Township; and about the year 1853 located upon his present place, where he has lived and followed his trade for a period of two and a half decades; he also owns 140 acres of land, which he rents, devoting his entire attention to his trade. He has been twice married, first, in 1851, to Maria D. Dininger, a daughter of Jacob Dininger, one of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; she was born in Montgomery Co., May 6, 1830; she died in Darke Co., Aug. 15, 1865, leaving five children, of whom four are now living—William, Margaret, Lewis, and Lydia. His marriage with Mrs. Matilda Risser was celebrated Oct. 4, 1868; her maiden name was Finfrock; she was born in Miami Co., Ohio, Dec. 17, 1832; they have three children by this union, viz., Alva A., Clara E., and John C.

HENRY TILLMAN, retired farmer; P. O. Greenville; one of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born in Preble Co., Ohio, Jan. 20, 1818; he was a son of John Tillman, Sr., who was born in Virginia April 17, 1780, and when 10 years of age removed to Tennessee, and came to the Territory of Ohio about the year 1800, two years previous to its admission into the Union as a State; he was married in Tennessee to Nancy Harlers; she was also a native of Virginia, born Sept. 10, 1790; they were the parents of seventeen children, of whom thirteen lived to grow up; Mr. Tillman died in Preble Co., Feb. 24, 1850; his wife died Sept. 1, 1863. The subject of this memoir was raised to farming in Preble Co. until 22 years of age, when, in 1840, he came to Darke Co. and located in Van Buren Township, upon 160 acres of timber land which had been entered by his father; and upon this place he resided until 1871, a period of thirty years, during which time he cleared upward of 500 acres, and brought the same from a howling wilderness to a good state of improvement, and in 1862 he was in possession of 1,000 acres of land; he has since disposed of a part of the same, and now has about 600 acres divided into improved farms. Mr. Tillman has been one of the hard-working and industrious men of Darke Co., and by his energy, industry and correct business habits, has placed himself among the large land-holders of this county; in 1872, he purchased his present residence in Greenville, with 15 acres of land within the corporation of Greenville, upon which he then located, and where he has since lived, retired from active labor, having his farm rented. June 16, 1840, he was married to Rachel Townsend; she was born April 3, 1820, and died March 18, 1848; two children are now living by this union—Noah H. and Lydia. His marriage with Martha Thorn was celebrated Aug. 12, 1849; she was born in Indiana in 1824, and with her parents came to Darke Co. in 1831; she was a daughter of Thomas A. Thorn, one of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; he died in this county in 1852; they have three children by this union, viz.: Belle, now Mrs. Henry Hetzler; John A., farming in Brown Township; and Susie, now Mrs. Cliff Boyde. Mr. T. has taken a deep interest in the cause of religion, having been a member of the Christian Church for a period of thirty years; his wife and four of the children also belong to the church.

WALTER J. TODD, livery and feed stable; the subject of this memoir was born in Campbell Co., Ky., Feb. 3, 1840, and is a son of Charles W. and Catherine Todd, also natives of Kentucky. Our subject removed to Greenville in 1861, and soon after embarked in the livery stable business, in which he is still engaged; he carries a fine stock of turn-outs, the finest in the city, and is prepared at all times to give his customers, or any who may favor him with a call, a fine rig at moderate prices. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary Coblantz, a native of Ohio, Jan. 14, 1871; they were the parents of two children, viz., George B., born in 1872, Chasseldown, born in 1875.

J. W. TROXELL, saw-miller and lumber dealer; P. O. Greenville; born in Virginia, Sept. 5, 1833, where he remained with his parents till 1845, when they





moved to Knightstown, Ind., where he remained until 1859 or 1860; at this date, he purchased a saw-mill, and moved it to Illinois, where he remained some two years; he then disposed of his mill and went to Indianapolis, where he worked at the carpenter's trade, and in 1873 came to this county, where he has since continued to reside. On the 22d of December, 1873, he was united in marriage with Nancy M. Anderson; they are the parents of four children, of whom three are living, viz., Fannie B., Belle and Mamie; the deceased died in infancy.

THOMAS P. TURPEN, retired; P. O. Greenville; the paternal ancestry of our subject cannot be traced with any degree of certainty; all that is definitely known is that his Grandfather Turpen was born in England, and emigrated to this country in about the year 1700; on the maternal side, we only know that a George Hubbard, whom we will call the first George Hubbard, was born in England in 1590; settled first in Hartford, Conn., married Elizabeth Watts; came to Middletown in 1650; had eight children, six being sons; died March 18, 1684; his children's names were Mary, born Feb. 16, 1641; Joseph, born Dec. 10, 1643; Daniel, born December, 1645; Samuel, born May 9, 1648; George, born December, 1650; Nathaniel, born Dec. 10, 1652; Richard, born Jan. 15, 1655; Elizabeth, born 1659. II. Joseph Hubbard, son of George First, was born Dec. 10, 1643; died 1686; his children were Robert, born Oct. 30, 1673; George, born 1675; died Dec. 15, 1765. III. George Hubbard, son of Joseph, was born 1675, died Dec. 15, 1765; married Elizabeth Miller Dec. 22, 1703; their children were George, born March 9, 1705; Mahitable, born June 21, 1708; Richard, born Jan. 8, 1712; Abner, born April 10, 1715; Caleb, born Aug. 28, 1716; Hezekiah, born March 6, 1718; Abner, born July 26, 1721. IV. George Hubbard, son of George Third, born March 9, 1705; married Mercy Roberts; their children were George, born Feb. 6, 1731; Abner, born 1733, was lost at sea. V. George Hubbard, son of George Fourth, was born Feb. 6, 1731, old style, died Jan. 7, 1809, new style; married Mary Stocking; their children were George, born Aug. 17, 1758; Mahitable, born Feb. 18, 1762; Jesse, born June 7, 1764; Elias, born Aug. 26, 1766; Asa, born Jan. 13, 1769; Zadoc, born Jan. 8, 1771; Ansel, born June 15, 1774; Mary, born April 16, 1780. Henry Turpen, father of our sketch, was born in Middletown, Conn., 1775; was married to Mary Hubbard in the year 1798, by whom he had twelve children, of whom six are still living; Thomas P. Turpen was born near Lebanon, Warren Co., Ohio, Oct. 1, 1820; his early days were passed in the endless variety of ways incident to boy life on the farm, and his educational advantages were commensurate with those early times; he remained on the farm until the age of 32, when he came to Greenville and engaged in the dry-goods business; after two years' experience, he was employed as Government agent; continuing in this for three years, he went to Peru, South America; remaining about a year, he returned to Greenville and engaged in the furniture business; remaining in this until 1862, he was elected County Treasurer and served four years; in 1869, he built the "Turpen House," and presided over it till 1878, when he was succeeded by his son. His marriage with Mary J. Hunter was celebrated March 14, 1843; she was born June 17, 1824; they were the parents of four sons and one daughter, viz.: Lucy H., died at 3 years of age; John C., County Auditor, whose sketch also appears in this work; William V., now conducting the hotel, whose sketch also appears in this work; Daniel B., and Frank; Lucy H., born Feb. 21, 1844; John C., Oct. 31, 1845; William V., July 7, 1847; Daniel B., July 20, 1851; Frank E., March 12, 1854.

JOHN C. TURPEN, County Auditor; Greenville, Ohio; born in Darke Co., Ohio, Oct. 31, 1845, and is a son of Thomas P. Turpen, whose sketch also appears in this work; John C. attended the public schools of Greenville, and completed his education by attending the Adrian College, of Adrian, Mich., one year, and the Albion College, Albion, Mich., three terms; he then attended the Commercial College of Dayton, from which he graduated in 1868; he was then employed in the Auditor's office at Greenville several years, and in 1878 was elected to the





above office, which he now holds. Upon the 21st of January, 1869, he was united in marriage with Mattie Wharry; they have four children by this union. Fred H., Mary, Clara, and Maggie; Mrs. Turpen is a daughter of Judge John Wharry, one of the early pioneers of Darke Co.

**WILLIAM V. TURPEN**, proprietor of the Turpen House, Greenville; born in Greenville Township, Darke Co., Ohio, July 7, 1847, and is a son of Thomas P. Turpen, whose sketch also appears in this work. A small part of the early life of our subject was passed on the farm, during which time he attended the common school, but completed his education in the graded schools of Greenville; at 18 years of age, he entered the store of his father, continuing with him in his different branches of trade until the completion of the above hotel, which was erected, opened and conducted by his father until the spring of 1879, when he was succeeded by William V., who has already established a reputation as being one of the best hotel proprietors of the State, and we can say from our own experience that we have found no hotel in Ohio, where we have been so well satisfied as at the Turpen House, and predict that the genial landlord will soon find himself laboring under one difficulty, viz., want of room for the accommodation of his many patrons. The marriage nuptials of William V. Turpen and Mary Jones were celebrated June 7, 1870; she was born in Darke Co. in 1850; her father, John Jones, was editor of the first paper printed in this county. Two children are the fruits of this union, viz., Benjamin and Nellie.

**JOSEPH R. TURNER**, firm of Turner Bros., wholesale and retail liquor dealers, Broadway, Greenville, Ohio. Greenville, like most cities of its size, has its representative business men in nearly every branch of trade, and we must accord to the above firm the honor of being the leading firm of the place in their line, carrying, as they do, a large and extensive stock of foreign and domestic goods, which they sell at the smallest margin. Joseph R. Turner is the senior member of the firm, and was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, June 23, 1842; received the advantage of the common schools, and completed his education by a course of two years' study at the Wittenberg College at Springfield. In the summer of 1861, he enlisted in the 13th Mo. V. I.; was then transferred to the 22d O. V. I., serving sixteen months; he then returned home on a sick furlough; received a commission as Second Lieutenant of Co. K, 93d O. V. I., and served with this regiment through Kentucky and Tennessee, participating in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, and some battles of less importance. The hardships of army life being too severe for his constitution, after being disabled from duty some four months, he resigned, returned home, and upon the 1st of July, 1865, he made the trip overland from Omaha to Virginia City with mule teams, the trip consuming some four months. He remained in Montana some five and a half years, during which time his *thermometer* of success suffered many changes, he having made and lost several fortunes. He returned to Ohio in 1871, and in 1874 located in Greenville with his brother under the above firm name, where they have since done a successful business. His marriage with Hattie A. Macy was celebrated in Montgomery Co. in 1872; they have three children by this union, viz., Mabel, Ida and Maud.

**HENRY VANTILBURGH**, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Greenville. We are pleased to make mention of the above gentleman among the old settlers of Darke Co. He was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, March 6, 1813. His father, John Vantilburgh, was born in New Jersey, and emigrated to Warren Co., Ohio, thence to Montgomery Co., and about the year 1835 came to Darke Co., where he died in 1837; his wife's maiden name was Sarah Francis; the last fourteen years of her life were spent with her son Henry, and died at his residence about the year 1864. The subject of our sketch lived in Montgomery and Warren Cos. until 25 years of age, when he came to Darke Co., and after a residence of two years, removed to Preble Co., and in 1844 returned to Darke Co. and located upon his present place, where he has lived for a period of thirty-five years, and has since





cleared about 60 acres by his own labor. Upon locating here, his worldly possessions consisted of one small team of horses, and he was in debt \$65; he, with the assistance of his amiable wife, battled against poverty, until they have secured a pleasant home and have secured sufficient of this world's goods to carry them through life. In June, 1843, he was united in marriage with Mabel F. Holly; she was born in Butler Co., Ohio, in 1821; they have one son and six daughters, viz., Nancy, Albinia, Eliza, Louisa, Sanford, Mabel and Maria.

E. H. VOELKLE, retired carriage and wagon maker, Greenville. Our subject was born in Cleveland, Ohio, Aug. 20, 1848; in 1853, he with his parents moved and located in Covington, Miami Co., where they remained until 1858, at which time they came to Gettysburg, Darke Co., and have since been residents of said county, he having been a resident of Greenville for several years. In April 1879, he was elected to the office of Constable, which position he now holds.

JACOB WAGNER, proprietor Wagner House, Greenville, Ohio. We eat to live, and live to eat; therefore, to point out a good hotel is an act of kindness which is sure to be appreciated by the hungry traveler. The genial proprietor of the above house is the oldest hotel keeper of Greenville, and has a reputation as a first-class man in his line, his house having a good reputation, extending over a large part of Ohio, Indiana and other States. He was born in Reinpfaltz, Bavaria, Germany, Jan. 24, 1833; he received a good education in German in his own country, and emigrated to America when 24 years of age, landing in New York Dec. 1, 1857; coming directly West, he remained three years in Cincinnati, then one year in Louisville, Ky., thence to Miamisburg, Montgomery Co., where he was employed as clerk in a hotel from 1862 to 1864; thence to Dayton, where he engaged in the hotel business for himself until 1868, and in the fall of 1868 he came to Greenville and purchased King's Hotel, which he gave the name of Wagner, and which he has successfully run for a period of eleven years; he also has a feed and sale stable connected with the house. He was married in Dayton, to Barbara Haas, in 1854; she was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, Jan. 2, 1833; they are the parents of two children, one of whom died in infancy; the living, George Lewis, was born June 14, 1865. Mrs. Wagner is a daughter of Conrad Haas, who emigrated from Germany to America in the year 1868, and is now a resident of Miami Co. Mrs. Wagner emigrated to America in 1858, and located in Dayton, at which place her marriage nuptials were celebrated with our subject.

JOHN H. WARVEL; P. O. Pikeville; resides in Greenville Township, Sec. 1. One of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; born in Lebanon, Warren Co., Ohio, May 16, 1818. He was the oldest son of Christopher Warvel, who was born in Rockingham Co., Va., and came to Warren Co. in the year 1817, where he lived a few years, then to Montgomery Co.; and, in 1838, came to Darke Co., and located in the woods, near Beamsville, where he lived until his decease; he was one of the patriots of the war of 1812, under Col. Massie. A full and complete genealogy of the family will be found in the sketch of Daniel Warvel, in another part of this work; John H. received a limited education in the subscription schools in Warren and Montgomery Cos., and assisted his father in farming until 18 years of age, when he was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith's trade; after working at the same for two years he was obliged to give it up on account of his eyesight failing him; in Aug. 14, 1833, he came to Darke Co. and purchased 80 acres of land near where Beamsville now stands; after residing there three years he lost his wife, and to pay the doctors' bills, he was obliged to sell half of his farm: upon locating here, he settled in the woods, his milling was done at Piqua, and there was only two houses between his residence and Greenville; commencing life in penury, he has suffered all the privations and hardships of frontier life; he has cleared 200 acres of land, and has now 275 acres of land upon the old homestead, a part of which was entered by him in the year 1850; he has been very kind to his children, and has settled upon each one money and land





to the amount of \$1,200. A part of the old homestead was entered by him in the year 1830; May 16, 1878, he was tendered a surprise by his friends and old acquaintances, to the number of 100, coming from different townships; the company represented all ages from childhood to old age, bringing bountiful supplies of provisions and refreshments; Rev. Mr. Colvin offered prayer and made some appropriate remarks, after which James Johnston made an address; the Dallas band furnished music for the occasion. His marriage with Mary Souders was celebrated May 31, 1838; she was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, April 15, 1819; she died May 15, 1841, leaving two children, of whom one is now living, viz., Nathan S., born April 18, 1839—the other died in infancy. His second wife was Barbara Holloway; they were married Dec. 19, 1841; she was born Jan. 30, 1820, and died Aug. 5, 1844, leaving two sons, one now living, Allen, born Sept. 21, 1842; Irving, born June 12, 1844, died July 8, 1873. He married for his third wife, Phebe Harney, March 9, 1845; she was born Aug. 29, 1820; she died Jan. 25, 1846, leaving one child, who died in infancy. His marriage nuptials with Mrs. Elizabeth (Beanblossom) Baker were celebrated Feb. 16, 1847; she was born Dec. 6, 1813, in Montgomery Co.; they have four daughters, and have lost a son by death; the living are Charlotte, born Dec. 13, 1847, now Mrs. L. C. Garver, of Dallas; Sarah A., born Oct. 13, 1849, now Mrs. Adam Johnston, of Brown Township; Elizabeth, born Sept. 25, 1853, now Mrs. Orlando J. Hager, of Dallas; Emeline, born Feb. 10, 1857, now Mrs. George Garbick, living in Richland Township. Mrs. Warvel is one of the oldest residents of Darke Co.; she is a daughter of Christian Beanblossom, who was born in North Carolina, and came to Darke Co. about the year 1817, and located in the woods among the wolves and Indians; Mrs. Warvel has a vivid recollection of the familiar faces of the same. Her first husband was Andrew Baker, to whom she was married June 27, 1841; he died March 14, 1844; they had two children, who died in infancy. Mrs. Warvel located here when there was nothing but an Indian trail from here to Greenville; she is now living upon the same place where she has lived for sixty years. Mr. Warvel has been administrator of many estates, has been guardian for many children; has been Infirmary Director six years, and has held other offices.

**NATHAN S. WARVEL.** Sec. 1, Greenville Township; one of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born in Richland Township April 18, 1839; he is the oldest son of John H. Warvel, whose biography also appears in this work. The subject of this sketch was raised upon a farm of his father's until upward of 20 years of age, and in 1859 he commenced business for himself by engaging in thrashing, which he has followed for eighteen years during the fall, being engaged for the balance of the year in farming. In 1861, he commenced farming in Richland Township, and in the fall of 1863 he exchanged farms with his uncle and located upon his present place, where he has since lived. Upon the 23d of December, 1860, he was united in marriage with Nancy J. Royer, who was born in Logan Co., Ohio, Dec. 8, 1839; she was a daughter of David Royer, who was born in Rockingham Co., Va., Feb. 11, 1807, and came to Ohio at an early day, and died Feb. 15, 1860, aged 53 years. The children of Nathan S. and Nancy (Royer) Warvel were four in number, of whom one is deceased; the living are Martha S., born Oct. 22, 1863; Eva C., born June 21, 1865; Mary E., born June 9, 1868; the deceased died in infancy, Oct. 10, 1861. Mr. and Mrs. Warvel are both members of the Christian Church.

**HENRY A. WEBB,** the present Mayor of Greenville. The career, briefly outlined, of individuals chosen by the people to direct in government, whether of city, State or nation, may well be considered of most interesting character. Too frequently honors are heaped upon men whose fame is based upon success in sanguinary conflicts, and the pages which record their achievements seem dark and repelling from their crimsoned hue. As often, the men whose quiet lives display manly action, strict integrity and true Christian principles, are quietly ignored as though the creations of peace were not comparable to the





demolition and ravages of war. It is a well-approved saying, that the best of men seldom find their way to the front. When, however, exceptions occur, the lesson is fraught with encouragement and example to posterity. Ancestry is a subject of which men have long been proud. There is pleasure in tracing a long line of honorable ancestors back toward the obscure shadow of the past. This pleasure is enjoyed by the subject of this sketch, Henry A. Webb, whose line of eight generations is on record, from Christopher Webb, of Wales, who came from that country about the year 1650, on down to the present. The following genealogy presents the chain of descent: Christopher Webb the second, the father of Benjamin Webb, the father of Timothy Webb the father of Stephen Webb, born at Windham, Conn., Oct. 4, 1742, who was the father of Nathaniel Webb, born Jan. 15, 1770, and died at Guyandotte, Va., Aug. 22, 1823; he was the father of Nathan Webb, born July 27, 1798, who married Margaret Albright, of Hanover Penn., Oct. 31, 1819, and Nathan was the father of Henry A. Webb. The family removed to Vincennes, Ind., when Henry was an infant, from Hanover where he was born (Sept. 22, 1822), and the father dying, his widow, with a family of four children, returned to Pennsylvania. The journey is remembered as a long and tedious one, to which present travel is but as a pleasure-trip. At the age of 13, Henry was bound as an apprentice to George Young to learn the trade of tobacconist; having served six years, the desire to see other places, and to find a congenial and promising opening for exertions, induced him to travel to various places, engaging in such work as could be had. On the 15th of June, 1845, he married Elizabeth Warner at Hampton, Penn., and three years later removed to Baltimore, Md., where he continuously engaged in his business as a dealer in tobaccos until 1870, when he migrated to his present place of residence, Greenville, Ohio; here he resumed business, which has prospered and been increased, until the present stock affords an ample choice to the public of all articles kept in a variety store. From childhood, Mayor Webb has shown a fondness for painting and studiously labored during leisure hours to master the difficulties of this ideal and realistic work; he succeeded, and many portraits extant are the work of his hand; despite the discovery and perfection of sun pictures, his services are yet in demand, and the ancient and noble art yet exists. He was originally a Democrat, and cast his first vote for James K. Polk; upon the nomination of President Lincoln to the office of chief magistrate of the nation the second term, Mayor Webb became a Republican, and has since continued to act with that party; in March, 1878, his name was placed upon the Republican ticket for the city of Greenville, as Mayor, and his election resulted by a majority of about one hundred over his opponent, A. P. Gorsuch. Mayor for two terms—a strong, popular man, well calculated for the position. Believing in the refining and elevating tendencies of religion, he joined the English Lutheran Church, in 1848, at Baltimore, and remained with it till the time of his removal to Greenville; there being no church of this denomination, he stood temporarily connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church four years, and acted as Superintendent of their Sabbath school; he then began to attend the Episcopal Church, which considers him practically a member, and is the Superintendent of the Sabbath school therewith connected. He joined the Washingtonians in 1840, and stands by the brief pledge of the organization—abstinence from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. In 1844, he became a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Mechanics' Lodge, and is also of the Encampment of Greenville. Taking little part in politics, he acts from principle; he is earnest in example and influence for Christianity, delights in painting, and is beloved by his family, and generally respected. Mayor Webb is of fine personal bearing, is well preserved, social, easy of approach, and a pleasant conversationalist. Following a quiet business and official routine, life is made useful, and the years pass sweetly and pleasantly.

NATHAN B. WEBSTER, merchant, Allen's Block, Fourth street, Green





ville; dealer in groceries, provisions, glass and queensware, etc., etc. The subject of this memoir was born in Mt. Sterling, Madison Co., Ohio, Nov. 3, 1846, and is a son of J. S. Webster, now a prominent merchant of Ansonia, whose biography appears among the sketches of Brown Township, in another part of this work; our subject came to Darke Co. with his parents in 1865; after one year's residence he removed to Illinois, where he resided until 1871, at which time he returned to Greenville and followed clerking and various pursuits until January, 1880, when he purchased his present business, and from his extended acquaintance and popularity we predict, that he will command a large increasing yearly trade. His marriage with Dottie Martin was celebrated in Greenville in April, 1872; she was born in Greenville Sept. 2, 1850; they have four children by this union, viz., William, Charles T., Clyde and Gertrude. Mrs. Webster is a daughter of William Martin, one of the prominent early pioneers of Darke Co., whose biography appears among the sketches of this township.

HERMAN WEILLS, carriage manufactory, Greenville. The subject of this sketch was born in Washington Co., Penn., May 23, 1851; he is a son of Solomon and Lydia (Shaffer) Weills; he left his place of nativity in 1856, and went to Liberty, Union Co., Ind., where he remained until 1861; he then went to Tippecanoe, Miami Co., Ohio, where he learned his trade, remaining there four years. He came to Darke Co., and settled in Greenville in the fall of 1878. He was united in marriage with Catherine Porter Feb. 23, 1874; she was born Sept. 23, 1851, and is a daughter of James Porter, a resident of Hancock Co., and is now living in Darke Co., at the age of 62 years; his wife was born in 1828, and died in 1865. Mr. Weills' business is located at the corner of Walnut and Third streets, where he gives employment to several men, and manufactures some of the finest work in Greenville.

JOHN E. WESTFALL, retired farmer; P. O. Greenville. Among the early pioneers of Darke Co., the gentleman whose name heads this sketch is accorded a place in the front ranks; he was born near where the city of Cincinnati now stands Sept. 19, 1810; when 5 years of age, he came to Darke Co., with his parents and located in Adams Township; when 12 years of age, the death of his father occurred, and at 15 years of age, he commenced the management of the home farm, continuing the same until 22 years of age. In 1832, he was united in marriage with Priscellia Williams, who was born in Ohio Sept. 21, 1805; they were the parents of seven children, of whom George and Isaac Newton only survive, and are both mentioned in the biographical part of this work. In 1832, he removed to Greenville Township and purchased 30 acres upon the same section where he has since lived for a period of forty-seven years; he has been a continuous resident of the county for sixty-five years; he now has 145 acres in his home farm, located three miles from Greenville; about the year 1869, he rented his farm to his sons, since which time he has retired from active labor. He has a vivid recollection of the Indians, the wolf and deer, and other game which in the early day of his coming here was to be found in abundance. He is one of the very oldest of our earlier settlers, nearly all of the pioneers of 1815 having either died or removed away.

MARTIN C. WESTFALL, farmer and stock-raiser. Sec. 32; P. O. Greenville; one of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; born in Montgomery Co. in 1824; he was a son of Jacob Westfall, who was born in Virginia and came to Montgomery Co., Ohio, at an early day, and to Darke Co., about 1827, and was consequently one of the early settlers of Darke Co.; he died in the same county, about the year 1839 or 1840. He was married in Montgomery Co. to Barbara Crown; she was also born in Virginia, and died at the residence of Martin C. in 1878, at the advanced age of 88 years. Martin C. came to Darke Co. in the year 1827, being then three years of age, and has always lived on the same place for a period of upward of half a century; he is one of the oldest continuous residents of Greenville Township; he has now upward of 106 acres under a good





state of cultivation, which he has brought from a howling wilderness to its present state of cultivation by his own labor. His marriage with Mary Pannel was celebrated in 1838; she was born in Virginia; they were the parents of three children, of whom one is deceased; the living are William L., born August, 1839 now living upon the home farm; Ida E., born in 1868; the deceased, Charles M., died in infancy.

GEORGE WESTFALL, farmer; P. O. Greenville; one of the old settlers of Darke County, was born in Greenville Township Jan. 19, 1841; he is the oldest son of John E. Westfall, one of our early pioneers, whose biography appears among the sketches of Greenville Township. The subject of our sketch received a liberal education, and assisted his father in agricultural pursuits until upward of 24 years of age, when upon March 30, 1865, he was united in marriage with Martha Phillips; she was born in Butler Co., Ohio, Dec. 17, 1843; they have five children by this union, viz., Leora B., John W., Maggie M., Bertha O. and Arthur R. Upon the marriage of Mr. Westfall, he located upon his present place, where he has since devoted his attention to farming. In 1870, he was elected as Township Trustee of Greenville Township, which office he filled with credit to himself, and satisfaction to his townsmen, for a period of eight years.

ISAAC NEWTON WESTFALL, farmer; P. O. Greenville; the subject of this memoir was born in Greenville Township, Darke Co., Ohio, upon the 21st of February, 1843; he is a son of one of the early pioneers, John E. Westfall, and a brother of George Westfall, both of whom are mentioned in the biographical part of this work in this township; in early life he applied himself closely to his studies, and by so doing succeeded in obtaining a good common-school education; he has always followed the occupation of farming, and about the year 1869, rented a part of the farm of his father, which he has since operated. Upon the 4th of August 1864, he was united in marriage with Mary E. Bell, who was born in Gettysburg, Adams Township, Nov. 29, 1846; they are the parents of five sons, viz., Oscar W., William E., Charles E., Alonzo R., and an infant unnamed. Mrs. Westfall was a daughter of Jacob Bell; her mother's maiden name was Mary Zimmerman, both natives of Pennsylvania, and early pioneers of Darke County. Mrs. Bell coming here in 1838, her husband locating here a few years previous. Mr. Bell died in 1850; Mrs. B. now makes her home with her daughter, and, at the age of 61 years, is in possession of all her faculties, and able to perform some household duties.

WASHINGTON ALLEN WESTON, deceased, Greenville; was born in Alexandria, Va., March 3, 1814, and died in Greenville, Ohio, April 24, 1876; his father, William Weston, was a sea captain and perished at sea; his mother, Rebecca Conyes, was an English lady, and died soon after the death of her husband; when an orphan boy of 15, he came to Ohio, and was six years a salesman in a mercantile house in Dayton, where he made a record of fine business talent, industry and honesty; about 1835, with a small capital, he began business in Piqua, Ohio, but the financial crisis of 1836-37 swept away every dollar he possessed; nothing daunted, however, he soon began again in Covington Miami County, where he prospered and became leader in the public affairs of the community; in 1847, he was elected on the Whig ticket to the General Assembly of Ohio, and acquitted himself with credit; in the fall of 1848, he located in Greenville, and opened the first hardware store of the place; in 1856, he purchased the Dayton paper mills, and for seven years conducted a thriving business in that city, and in 1863, returned to Greenville, resumed the hardware trade, and in January, 1866, became one of the organizers of the Farmers' National Bank of Greenville, and President of the same, remaining such until his decease. He was prominently active in the local enterprise of the community, and his generosity was as universal as mankind, with a heart ever open, and a hand ever extended to relieve the necessities of the poor and unfortunate. He possessed a fine literary and scientific taste, and had a very fair education, and was a good conversationalist; he excelled as a writer, and contributed a number of timely



articles to the public prints of the day. The guiding principle of his life was the Golden Rule.

A. WINKLEBLECK, contractor in supplies for P. C. & St. L. R. R. and dealer in timber, wood, bituminous and anthracite coal; office, Martin street, Greenville. The subject of this sketch was born in Montgomery Co., on the 2d of January, 1846. He has been a resident of Darke Co. for several years, and, on Dec. 25, 1865, he was united in marriage with Susan Gorsuch. They are the parents of six children, of whom three are deceased. The living are Homer C., Maud and Carrie C.

JOHN LEOPOLD WINNER, merchant, banker, and legislator, Greenville; was born in Franklin, Warren Co., Ohio, November 19, 1816. His parents were Isaac Winner and Mary Powell, natives of New Jersey. They were married in Philadelphia and came to Ohio in 1816, where they passed their lives. Mrs. Winner died in April, 1832, and her husband in the October following. For about four years subsequent to his father's death, our subject worked at the cooper's trade. In April, 1836, he came to Darke Co. and located in Greenville, where he has since been extensively identified with the business of the community, and has also held a prominent place in the political councils of the county and State. In November, 1837, he married Miss Charlotte Clark, daughter of John Clark, Esq., of Warren Co., Ohio. For some five years Mr. Winner was in the grocery business. Eight years he kept a hotel. Four years he kept a drug store. In 1853, he engaged in banking in company with the late Col. J. W. Frizzell, and thus continued till May, 1865, when he became a stockholder in the Farmers' National Bank of Greenville, and, in January, 1866, he was made cashier of that institution, which position he held till January, 1872. In April, 1873, he opened the Exchange Bank of Greenville, and still conducts the business of that flourishing institution. His wife died Aug. 12, 1863. She possessed, in a high degree, those noble qualities of mind and heart so essential to a true wife, and was revered in the community for her sweetness of disposition and sympathizing charity for the poor and unfortunate. She left an only daughter, Hattie, who inherited the sterling qualities of her mother, but the loss of her mother so affected her that she survived her but a few weeks, dying at the age of 15 years. On April 1, 1867, Mr. Winner married Mrs. Jane Crider, widow of Frederick Crider, of Greenville, and daughter of John W. Porter of the same place. Since 1863, Mr. Winner has been a member of the firm of Moore & Winner, the leading dry-goods firm of the county. In 1846, he was appointed Auditor of Darke Co., to fill an unexpired term of four years, from 1857 to 1861 he represented Darke Co. in the Legislature, and from 1867 to 1871 he served in the State Senate. In 1874, he was elected Mayor of Greenville, and served two years. In politics, he is a Democrat. Although his school advantages were very meager, his active mind has grasped a knowledge of men and things that fully compensates the loss.

WILLIAM H. YOUART, late of this township, deceased. The subject of this memoir was born in Ireland in 1796, and came to America about the year 1818, settled in Miami Co., Ohio, where he followed farming and working at his trade, that of wheelwright, with the exception of five years' residence in Indiana, until 1850, when he removed to Darke Co., and located in Franklin Township, where his decease occurred in 1862. He married in Miami Co., Ohio, to Nancy Jay; she was born in Pennsylvania in 1809; they were the parents of nine children, of whom five are now living, viz., Anna, William H., Samuel, Jennie and Emma; Mrs. Youart is now living with her sons at their home, and at 70 years of age is in possession of all her faculties and able to attend to some light household duties; their home is located one and a half miles east of Greenville; Wm. H. and Samuel are the only sons now living; they came to Sec. 36, Greenville Township, in 1871, and purchased their present place of 60 acres, where they have since lived; in 1873, they engaged in the ice business, and have since largely supplied the citizens of Greenville with ice; they have ice-houses the capacity of 12,000 tons, which





amount they laid in the past year; a card of their business will be found in the directory of Greenville. in another part of this work.

**DANIEL ZIMMERMAN**, grain-dealer; firm of Zimmerman & Grubbs, grain merchants, Lower Depot, Greenville, Ohio; another of the old settlers of Darke Co., born in Lebanon Co., Penn., Jan. 25, 1827; he is a son of Henry Zimmerman, who emigrated from Pennsylvania to this county in the fall of 1835, and is now residing in Greenville at the advanced age of 83 years; our subject came to Greenville with his parents, and when 16 years of age he was apprenticed to learn the harness-maker's trade, which occupation he followed some seven years; he then associated with Eli Helm in the butcher business, continuing the same for twelve years. In the spring of 1863, he enlisted in the 94th O. V. I., and went forward to battle for the Union; he received his commission as second Lieutenant, and after two months' service received his discharge on account of disability. In 1865, he engaged in the grain business at his present place, which business he has successfully followed; in 1876 he associated with Mr. Grubbs, since which time he has done business under the above firm name; they are extensively engaged in buying and shipping grain to the Eastern markets; their shipments having in a single season amounted to upward of 150,000 bushels. Mr. Zimmerman has held his full share of town offices, having been Marshal of the city two years, Councilman three years, Street Commissioner two years, and is now Corporation Treasurer. His marriage with Catherine Hartzell, was celebrated in Greenville in 1849; she was a native of Pickaway Co., Ohio; she died in Greenville July 13, 1876; they were the parents of two children Mary, deceased, and Lillie C., living.

## ADAMS TOWNSHIP.

**JOHN BREWER**, farmer. Sec. 16; P. O. Stelvideo. Peter, his father, was born in Pennsylvania in 1777; he married Holy Babe Larern, a native of Pennsylvania, born about 1779; they emigrated to Ohio in 1804, locating in Hamilton Co., and in 1819 he moved to Darke Co., where he resided till his death, which occurred in 1855; his wife died in 1843. John, the subject of this sketch, is one of Darke Co.'s old settlers; born in Pennsylvania on the 7th of October, 1802, came with his parents to Darke Co. in 1819; his education, which is very meager, he obtained by his own exertions; he lived with his parents till he was about 24 years of age, when, on the 8th of June, 1826, he celebrated his marriage with Elizabeth Coppess, who is a native of Greene Co., Ohio, born on the 2d of November 1807; after his marriage, he rented a farm on Stillwater, where he remained for two years; he purchased 80 acres in Adams Township, for which he paid \$500, erected a log cabin and moved, and began the task of opening up his farm; he added 93 acres more, making in all 173 acres, with 125 acres in a good state of cultivation, the whole valued at \$11,000; he also owns a house and lot in Stelvideo. Mr. and Mrs. Brewer are among the oldest settlers of Adams Township, and have lived to see the mighty forest disappear before the woodman's ax; and where the old log cabin stood, a large two-story frame house is in its place; they have passed through the many struggles, dangers and incidents so common to the pioneer of the West, but with an indomitable will, associated with frugality, industry and correct business habits, they have accumulated considerable amount of property; ten children have been born to them, of whom nine are living, viz. Alfred, born March 10, 1827; Mahala, born Dec. 25, 1828; Peter, born Aug. 2, 1831; Adam, born Nov. 25, 1833; Daniel, born Oct. 4, 1835; Jesner, born Aug. 29, 1840; Phoebe, born Oct. 9, 1843; John, born July 2, 1847; David, born May 30, 1850. Mr. Brewer is not a church member, but a true religionist, and is





known as a man of good principle and full of humanity ; he has raised six grandchildren, besides his own family—one for Mahala, two for Alfred, and three for Phoebe.

**HENRY BROWN**, carpenter and farmer ; P. O. Gettysburg, Ohio. Samuel, his father, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Lebanon Co. in June, 1803 ; he married Frances Kopp, who is a native of the same place, born in June, 1803 ; they emigrated to Ohio in May, 1834, locating in Wayne Co., eight miles north of Wooster, where they remained till the fall of 1847, when they removed to Montgomery Co., remaining there till spring, after which they removed to Miami Co., locating near where Bradford now stands, remaining till 1850, when he moved across the line into Darke Co., where he resided about four years, during which time he purchased a tract of land in Section 24, consisting of 124 acres, Adams Township, all of which was under heavy timber ; during the time between 1850 and 1854, he, with the help of his boys, erected a hewn-log house and cleared several acres, and in 1854 he moved his family, where he resided till his death, which occurred on the 3d of March, 1866, leaving a family of eight children, of whom seven are living at present, viz., Jacob, Henry, Daniel, Reuben, William, Fanny (now Mrs. Brandle), Elizabeth ; his widow still lives on the old home farm, being 76 years old ; Henry, the subject of this sketch, is a native of Ohio, born in Wayne County on the 27th of August, 1834 ; spent his boyhood days on the farm, assisting his father in the clearing and the cultivation of the soil, receiving his education in the district schools ; he remained at home till he was 22 years old, when he quit his parental roof and went in search of his fortune ; he commenced to work at the carpenter's trade when he was about 25 years old, in Gettysburg, Ohio, which trade he has followed ever since, making his home with his mother on the old home farm, assisting in the farming, etc. Mr. Brown is a live, energetic, thorough business man, strictly temperate in all his habits, and is highly esteemed by his many friends and acquaintances. He is a member of the Lutheran Church.

**ABRAHAM BYRD, SR.**, farmer ; P. O. Webster, Darke Co., Ohio ; was born Feb. 18, 1804, in Shenandoah County, and raised in Rockingham Co., Va. ; in 1840, he came to Ohio and stopped for a part of the first summer in Montgomery County, and then settled in Darke County ; worked at his trade, bricklaying, for two years. He then married Emma Radefelt, who was born Nov. 17, 1820, in Adams County, Penn. ; about the time of his marriage, he bought 80 acres of land in Sec. 36, Adams Township, on which he is still living ; he has 65 acres cleared, all of which he accomplished but about 15 acres ; they are the parents of ten children—George S., born June 2, 1843 ; Hannah C., Nov. 27, 1844 ; Jacob F., March 31, 1847 ; Sarah I., Nov. 11, 1849 ; Mary M., Jan. 17, 1852 ; Abraham and Emma, July 27, 1854 ; Henrietta, April 16, 1858 ; Lucy A., Feb. 27, 1860, and Silvester, Aug. 4, 1862.

**SOLOMON B. CHRISTIAN**, farmer, Sec. 9 ; P. O. Bradford ; Solomon, his father, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Huntingdon County on the 25th of December, 1789. He married Mary Bauslaugh, who was a native of the same State and county, and was born March 4, 1794 ; in 1814, Mr. Christian made a visit to Darke County, Ohio, and while here entered the east half of Sec. 9, and in 1829 he settled on his tract of land, which at that time was a dense forest ; his wife did not come till 1834, as she was afraid of the Indians ; she came with a firm determination to share the trials, dangers and hardships with her devoted husband, in the then almost unbroken wilderness, with here and there a family, at the mercy of the bloodthirsty red man, and for twenty-five years she nobly acted her part of the great drama of life ; on the 26th of September, 1859, the messenger of death entered the household, removing her from earth to heaven ; Solomon, her husband, survived the storm of life till Feb. 10, 1862, when he, too, sank peacefully to rest in the blessed knowledge of the immortality of the soul ; they were the parents of seven children, of whom four are living, viz.: Susan, now Mrs. Brakebill ; Anna,





now Mrs. Katherman; Sarah, now Mrs. Wise, and Solomon B., the subject of this sketch, who is a native of Darke County, Ohio, born Jan. 9, 1836: he received his education in the district schools by the time he was 19 years old, during which time he assisted his father in the clearing and the cultivation of the soil. On the 19th of January, 1854, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Mary Brumbaugh, who is a daughter of Jacob and Susan Brumbaugh, natives of Montgomery County, Ohio; Mary was born in Miami County on the 27th of December, 1830, being the fourth child in a family of eight children, viz.: Catharine, John, Carrad, Mary, Emanuel, Esther, Elizabeth and Susan; after his marriage, he farmed the old homestead, where he has resided ever since; he came in possession of the home farm at the death of his father; Mr. Christian has accumulated a considerable amount of property by his hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife; he is strictly temperate in all his habits, being a member of the Masonic Order, also of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and of the Patrons of Husbandry. He is a firm Democrat; Mr. Christian is not a political aspirant, although he has been identified with the township offices, served as Township Trustee two terms, one year as Pike Superintendent, and as School Director ten years. Mr. and Mrs. Christian are highly esteemed by their many friends and acquaintances for their good qualities; Mrs. Christian is a member of the German Baptist Church; they are the parents of eight children, of whom seven are living, viz.: Susan, born May 18, 1855; Philip, Jan 1, 1858; George W., July 4, 1860; Mary, July 14, 1863; Martha, Jan. 13, 1866; Solomon, Sept. 7, 1868; John S. R., Oct. 31, 1871. Jacob Brumbaugh was born March 14, 1803, died Jan. 27, 1843; Susan, his wife, was born Nov. 11, 1807, died March 29, 1852.

GIDEON J. COBLENTZ, farmer, Sec. 28; P. O. Bradford, Ohio. Daniel, the father of Gideon J., is a native of Maryland; born in Frederick County in April, 1814. He married Margaret Worman, who was born in Ohio in 1815; she departed this life in 1855. Mr. Coblentz celebrated his second marriage with Sarah Shepherd; they now reside three miles east of Dayton, Ohio. Gideon, the subject of this sketch, is a native of Ohio, born in Montgomery County, on the 17th of October 1838; he spent his boy-hood days in Montgomery County, assisting his father on the farm till he became of age, obtaining his education in the district schools. On the 7th of January, 1863, he celebrated his marriage with Mary E., daughter of John and Sarah Hinsey, who was born in Mad River Township, Montgomery County (now in the Corporation of Dayton), on the 29th of April, 1838. After his marriage, he moved on his father's farm, where he remained about two years; after which he rented the Barlow farm, remaining for a period of about three years; when he moved near Fort Wood, on a small farm for which he paid money rent, remaining three years; he followed farming for four years on three different farms, and in March, 1876, he purchased 40 acres in Adams Township, Sec. 28, where he moved and resides at present; has since added 8 acres more, making in all 48 acres in a good state of cultivation. Mr. Coblentz has accumulated some property by his hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife; is strictly temperate in all his habits; two children have been born to them, viz.: John D. W., born July 20, 1865; Sarah E. M. A., born March 27, 1872. Mrs. Mary E. Coblentz is a clairvoyant and has remarkable powers in the faculty of clairvoyancy; to diagnose disease and prescribe for the same, and has a large practice in the counties of Darke, Miami and Montgomery. After an illness of ten years, receiving treatment from the most able physicians of the county, but all to no avail until the 4th day of July, 1874, when the faculty of clairvoyancy was brought into action, and the beautiful "Beyond" was opened up to her vision: in which a tall, venerable old gentleman, with gray hair and beard, spoke to her, saying: "I come to cure you." She was then ordered by her control to read the thirty-fourth chapter of Ezekiel; after which she was ordered to go where there was a pool of dead water and remove from her person all but three garments and dip herself seven times, after which burn the three garments, which she did and in





six weeks she had recovered from her illness so as to be able to do her housework. We now leave the reader to draw his or her own conclusions, however, the writer can truthfully say that she possesses remarkable magnetic powers, and has great power over disease.

**SOLOMON CREAGER**, farmer ; P. O. Gettysburg ; was born in Maryland in 1809 ; was the son of Henry and Susannah Creager ; they had seven children, viz., Polly, Thomas, Charlotte, Rebecca, Valentine and Solomon ; the grandparents, Conrad and Susannah, were born in Germany ; Susannah's maiden name was Wolf. Henry and Susannah Creager came to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1810, when Solomon was about 9 months old, and located six miles south of Dayton, where they lived and died. Mr. Creager, the subject of our sketch, was married in 1833 to Maria, daughter of George and Susannah Martin ; George was born in England, and Susannah in Maryland ; Maria had two brothers and four sisters, viz., Elizabeth, Maria, Ann, Mary, George and John Thomas ; the eldest and youngest being dead, and the rest are living ; they have had as the issue of their marriage six children, three of whom are living, viz., Henry, George M. and Cora Francis, all married and settled in life. Mr. Creager after his marriage, lived with his father about six years, till the year 1840, when they came to this county ; having entered eighty-three acres of land about five years previous and settled upon it while it was a wilderness, and cut the first stick of timber ; made an opening and put up a small cabin, into which they moved ; then commenced clearing up, working and toiling from day to day and year to year ; making such improvements as time and means would admit, till at present they have about 65 acres cleared and in cultivation, and a good comfortable house, a large barn and other buildings for comfort and convenience. When Mr. Creager started in life he began without any capital, and has made all his property by his own industry and diligent labor, except a very small amount received from their parents. Mr. Creager has always been an active Democrat ; has been School Director and Trustee of his township some six years ; and also filled other township offices. He is a member of the Reformed Church, having belonged to the same for nearly half a century ; he and his wife were two of the six constituent members who organized the Zion's Church, the first Reformed Church established in this county ; he has been Elder in the church for eighteen years. Thus, while we have here a sketch of one of the old settlers of the county, we have also a sample of pioneers in the church work rarely excelled in length of time of service ; here we have a noble example of the coupling together of pioneer work in opening out the forests, and that of building up the church, which shall ever stand upon the pages of history as a bright and shining light to guide the children's children and future generations to industry in life, and a sure way to a happy immortality beyond.

**DANIEL CREAGER**, farmer ; P. O. Horatio ; was born in 1820 in Ohio ; was the son of Thomas and Elizabeth Creager, who were born in Maryland ; Elizabeth was the daughter of Lewis Lecklider ; the grandfather was Henry Creager. Thomas and Elizabeth Creager came to Darke County, and located upon the farm on which Daniel now lives, in 1832, when all was a wilderness ; they cut their road through from New Harrison to get to their land, and cut their first stick of timber ; arriving at the farm on Sunday, the next Wednesday eve had a log house up, and moved into it Thursday morning ; from this beginning they labored on, clearing up and opening out and making improvements as time and means would admit, enduring the privations and hardships of such life ; for several years their principal milling and grain market was at Dayton ; Thomas lived till 1849, when he departed this life, leaving as the results of his labor about 130 acres cleared and under cultivation, being an example of wonderful industry and energy, and having accomplished a wonderful amount of labor for the length of time he lived here ; he had a family of thirteen children, eight of whom grew up to manhood, viz., Esaias, Mary Ann, Perryman, Daniel, Catherine, Lewis, Elizabeth and Josiah, six being now living, the eldest of the eight children having since died. Daniel, the





fourth child, and the subject of this sketch, in 1847 went to Versailles, where he remained about two years; then to Kokomo, Ind., where he remained about two years; from there he went to California, where he remained about five years, returned home and remained here till 1863, when he bought a mill in Miami County, which he operated about two years, sold out, and then went to Versailles into the mercantile trade, in partnership, with his brother, where he remained two years, when he sold out; but the trade was not fully consummated, after which he was some of the time at Versailles and some of the time on the farm, to the expiration of five years, or till 1872, when his trade at Versailles was closed up, and he returned to the farm, where he has remained to the present time; the original farm, as bought or entered by Thomas Creager, comprised 334 acres, of which there are now about 180 acres cleared and in cultivation; the farm has remained undivided to the present time, the mother having departed this life only last May, 1879, being nearly 86 years of age; Daniel has bought out four of the heirs, thus becoming the owner of five shares, which, of course, gives him the greater portion of the farm. We see here the history of a man and a family who have been through many hardships, but the fruits of their labors are now visible, and enable them to live in comfort and plenty the rest of their lives; and this history will be read by generations to come with much interest, and as an example of industry and good management will stand forth as a bright and shining light to all ages to come.

**E. O. CRUEA**, meat market, Bradford, Ohio. James Cruea, the father of E. O., was born in Miami County, Ohio, on the 18th of June, 1818; was united in marriage with Miss Maria E. Alexander, who was born in Piqua, Ohio, on the 27th day of January, 1822; on the 7th day of August, 1873, the angel of death entered this peaceful family, removing from earth to heaven their kind and loving mother, leaving a large concourse of friends to mourn her death. Mr. Cruea is not a resident of Darke County, as he resides in Miami County, the street being the dividing line; he is hale and robust, being 61 years old. E. O. Cruea, the subject of the sketch, was born in Piqua, Ohio, on the 19th day of August, 1847; spent his boyhood days in Piqua, where he obtained a good common-school education; was united in marriage with Miss R. Anna Boulden, in Piqua, on the 16th day of September, 1869; she was born in Piqua on the 9th day of September, 1848; he moved to German Township, Darke County, in the spring of 1870, where he engaged in the live stock business, buying and selling; meeting with good success, he sold out in 1871 and moved to Pottawattamie County, Iowa, where he dealt in live stock, butchering a part of the time till the spring of 1874, when he sold out and moved to Bradford, where he still resides, and is at present engaged in the butchering business, carrying on the largest meat market in Bradford. Four children were given to the union, viz.: Anna A., who was born on the 18th day of September, 1870; James W. was born on the 2d day of November, 1873; Edna G. was born on the 2d day of December, 1875; Lizzie May was born on the 2d day of May, 1877.

**GEORGE W. ELIKER**, farmer, Sec. 28; P. O. Greenville. Henry E. Elizer, father, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1794; he married Lydia Hart, who was a native of the same State, born in 1790; they emigrated to Ohio, locating in Fairfield Co., where he remained till his death, which occurred in March, 1871; Mrs. Elikier died in 1845. They were the parents of three children, of whom all are living at present writing, viz., George W., Mary and Susan. George W., the subject of this sketch, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in York Co. on the 7th of October, 1822; came with his parents to Ohio in 1826, locating in Fairfield Co., where he obtained a good common-school education in the old-fashioned schoolhouse; lived at home till he was about 24 years old, and on the 10th of December, 1846, he celebrated his marriage with Eliza Graham, who was born in Fairfield Co., Ohio, on the 28th of May, 1823; after his marriage he rented a farm and farmed for about ten years, when he moved to Darke Co. and rented land for about five years; he has bought and sold 120 acres, in which he gained about





12800; he purchased 96 acres in Adams Township, for which he paid \$5,000, where he now resides; he has good farm buildings and about 80 acres in a good state of cultivation. Mr. Eliker had but little of this world's goods when he commenced life, but by hard labor, economy, connected with strict temperate habits and integrity, he has accumulated considerable amount of property. A sad affliction befell this interesting family, for on the 3d of October, 1873, the angel of death removed from earth to heaven the mother, who was a devoted mother, a good wife, and a zealous Christian. Eight children were born to them, of whom seven are living, viz.: John H., born Jan. 2, 1848; Joseph G., born Feb. 27, 1849; Mary C., born May 9, 1850; Sarah A., born Feb. 10, 1854; George W., born July 10, 1858; Simon, born May 9, 1852; Emma, born Oct. 24, 1860. Mr. Eliker is a zealous worker in the cause of religion, being a member of the "Brethren in Christ" for a period of twenty-one years.

CHRISTIAN ERISMAN, farmer, Sec. 24; P. O. Stelvideo, Ohio. Jacob, his father, was born in Pennsylvania on the 12th of October, 1785; he married Nancy Cassel, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1795; they emigrated to Ohio in 1839, locating in Darke Co., Adams Township, Section 21, where he resided till his death, which occurred in 1843. They were the parents of eighteen children, of whom nine are living, viz., Christian, Jacob, Henry H., Reuben, Benjamin, Emanuel, Daniel, Joseph, Anna. Christian, the subject of this sketch, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Lancaster Co. on the 24th of December, 1820; he assisted his father on the farm in the clearing and the cultivation of the soil; obtained his education in the subscription schools; came with his parents to Darke Co. in 1839; he remained at home till he was 21 years of age, when he commenced life on his own responsibility, working by the day or month, and at all kinds of work, till the death of his parents, when he returned home, and, with his eldest sister Eliza, took charge of the farm, which he managed with good success. On the 6th of February, 1845, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Catharine Long, who is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Adams Co. on the 16th of February, 1827; he now began the herculean task of clearing and opening up a farm, which has been accomplished; and, through the mercy of Providence, he has been spared to see the mighty forests fall before the woodman's ax, and what at that time was a dense wilderness, is now dotted with beautiful meadows, with elegant farmhouses and large and commodious barns; he has under cultivation 110 acres, with good farm buildings, has erected a large barn at a cost of about \$1,000, also a two-story brick house at a cost of \$1,200, all of which was done when labor and material were very low; he now owns 144 acres, valued at \$10,000, all of which he has accumulated by hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife, having passed through the many struggles, dangers and incidents so common to the pioneer of the West; eleven children have been born to this union, of whom only five are living, viz.: Lizzie, born Feb. 14, 1850; Franklin C., born Feb. 14, 1860; Lewis E., born Dec. 9, 1864; Cora M., born May 5, 1867; Arthur A., born Oct. 5, 1871. Henry Erisman, his brother, lives but a short distance from the old home farm; he married Mary Jane Reck on the 26th day of September, 1848; eight children have been born to them, of whom seven are living, viz.: Samuel H., born Aug. 26, 1849; Ervin H., born May 13, 1852; Edward, born Dec. 11, 1854; Brough, born July 4, 1862; Charles, born, Dec. 7, 1868; Frances, born Nov. 2, 1857; Della, born July 25, 1856.

ADAM C. FRAMPTON, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 15; P. O. Stelvideo. The subject of this memoir is a son of Hugh Frampton, who was a native of Pennsylvania and was born in 1799; he came to Ohio and settled in Richland Township, Darke Co., when he was a young man. He was united in marriage with Mary Coppess; she was born in North Carolina in 1805. They were the parents of five children, of whom four are now living, viz., Adam C., William, Martha (Mary J. deceased) and Sarah E. Mr. Frampton entered 80 acres of land which at that time was all under heavy timber; here they settled, lived and died. Mr.





Frampton departed this life in 1862; his wife dying two years previous. Our subject was born in Ohio, Darke Co., Nov. 5, 1826; he remained at home until he was 22 years of age, during which time he acquired a good common-school education in the district school. At the age of 20 he commenced school teaching which he followed for about three years; teaching during the winter months and working on the farm in the summer. On the 31st of May, 1849, he celebrated his marriage with Mary Jane Patterson; she was born in Maryland in 1826 and is a daughter of Robert and Anna Patterson, who emigrated from Maryland in 1832 and located in Richland Township, this county. Mr. Patterson departed this life in 1842; his wife's death occurring in 1854. They were the parents of five children, four of whom are living, viz., John, Esther, Mary Jane, Samuel and Michael deceased. After the marriage of Mr. Frampton, he settled on his farm in Richland Township; remaining there about three years, he sold out and moved to Stelvideo, Ohio, and in company with two of his brothers-in-law erected a steam saw mill and engaged in the timber business, following the same for about thirteen years, meeting with good success; he then sold out and purchased fifty acres of land in Sec. 15, Adams Township, for which he paid \$800; he also owned 60 acres in the same section, but disposed of 4 acres and now has 106 acres in his farm. When he purchased this land, it was all under heavy timber with the exception of 2 acres; he moved into a little house which had been erected previous to his coming here, but in a short time he had the residence erected he now lives in, and a good barn and other good farm buildings; he has 70 acres cleared and under a good state of cultivation. It can be truly said that Mr. Frampton is a "pioneer," that is, as far as clearing and opening out a farm is concerned; he has accomplished this by his hard labor, correct business and temperate habits, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife. He has been identified more or less with township offices since his residence in the county, served as Trustee of Adams Township for a period of six years, and has held some other offices; he is not a church member, but believes that religion must be lived as well as professed, and it can be said that he is always be found at his post ready to relieve suffering humanity. Five children are the fruits of this union, four of whom are living, viz., Robert P., Carrie, Minnie and Lillian. On the 3d of March, 1878, the death messenger entered this peaceful and interesting family and removed from earth to heaven, Rosella, a daughter of 16 summers, cut down in the bloom of life and leaving a host of friends to mourn her loss. Mr. Frampton is a member of the I. O. O. F. Order; also a member of the Patrons of Husbandry and is strictly temperate in all his habits, not using tobacco in any shape and has never taken a drink of any liquor only for medical purposes, and is an earnest worker in the cause of temperance.

**JACOB F. GAUBY,** manufacturer of brick and tile; P. O. Bradford, Ohio. Jacob, his father, was born in Pennsylvania on the 20th of March, 1803; he married Christina Fike, who was born in Berks Co., Penn., on the 11th of March, 1811; they emigrated to Ohio in 1855, locating in Darke Co., where they resided until death overtook them; Christina died June 11, 1873, and on the 16th of October, 1873, Jacob sank peacefully to rest.

Jacob F., the subject of this sketch, was born in Pennsylvania on the 7th of December, 1837; he spent his boyhood days in Pennsylvania, where he received a good education in German; came with his parents to Ohio when he was 17 years old; after he came to Ohio, he obtained some knowledge of the English language by his own efforts; he remained at home until he was 21 years old, and on the 20th of January, 1859, he celebrated his marriage with Rebecca Wise, a native of Ohio; he then engaged in farming, and in a few years he purchased 122 acres of land; unfortunately, he lost his wife on the 22d of March, 1865; three children were born to them, viz.: Moses, born Oct. 19, 1860; Jacob, born July 16, 1862; Rebecca, born March 9, 1865. About one year later, he celebrated his second marriage with Abigail Boocher, of Montgomery Co., Ohio; three children





by this union, of whom two are living, viz.: Henry, born June 27, 1868; John, born Dec. 3, 1870. On the 16th of January, 1874, the death messenger called again and summoned his wife to that better land; this, a second bereavement, almost crushed him to the earth. In 1874, he was married to Malinda J. Stose, a native of Ohio, born on the 7th of June, 1853; three children have been born to this union, viz., Effie J. D., Cora, William. Mr. Gauby has sold off 80 acres of his land, investing the proceeds in his manufacturing of tile and brick; he now owns 42 acres of land where he resides, one house and lot in Bradford, also a blacksmith-shop; he is now engaged in the manufacturing of brick and tile, and it is said that his tile and brick are the best in the county. The brickmasons say that they can make a better job out of his kiln than from any other in the country; he has the largest and most complete tile manufactory in the county. Mr. Gauby has had his full share of township offices; served as Constable and supervisor; he is a member of the I. O. O. F., and was a member of the German Baptist Church until he joined this order, when the church dismissed him for joining this good and noble order.

WILLIAM E. GEORGE, dealer in grain and hogs, also ticket, freight and express agent, Gettysburg, Ohio. George, his father, was a native of Germany, born in Hesse-Darmstadt in 1812; Mary, his wife, whose maiden name was Bishop, was a native of Adams Co., Penn., born in 1815; they were united in marriage in Gettysburg, Penn., where they spent their days. Mrs. George departed this life Dec. 24, 1843, Mr. George in 1879. Our subject is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Gettysburg, Adams Co., the 6th day of June, 1835; he spent his boyhood days in his native State, where he received his preparatory education in the district schools, after which he entered the preparatory department of the Pennsylvania College, where he obtained an academic education, and at the age of 20 years engaged in teaching school in the vicinity of Chambersburg, Franklin Co., which he followed about three years; came to Darke Co., Ohio, in the fall of 1857, and located in Washington Township, where he engaged in teaching in the district schools, which he followed for a period of about seven years, averaging about nine and a half months per year; he was united in marriage with Deborah H. Fonts on the 13th of January, 1861; she was a native of Indiana, born in South Bend, St. Joseph Co., on the 16th of October, 1840; her parents were natives of Maryland, and came to Indiana in an early day. On the 4th of June, 1863, the death messenger entered the household of Mr. George and removed from earth to heaven his beloved companion; after her death he sold all his real and personal property, following his profession of teaching in different localities, during which time he entered Bryant & Stratton's Commercial College of Indianapolis, where he graduated in the fall of 1865; he then came to Gettysburg, Darke Co., and resumed his profession, teaching at different places in Adams and Franklin Townships and vicinity, for about eight years. On the 28th of December, 1865, he celebrated his second marriage with Sarah M. McDowell, born in Darke Co. Jan. 4, 1844; her parents were from Pennsylvania, and came to this county in a very early day. In July, 1872, Mr. George was appointed ticket, freight, and U. S. Express agent of the P., C. & St. Louis R. R. at Gettysburg and at the same time engaged in the grain and stock trade, which he has since followed; he now has in course of erection a large elevator, 26x110, and 26 feet high, which will be supplied with all the necessary machinery; he handled about 170,000 bushels last season, of different kinds of grain. Mr. George has one child by his last marriage, Myrtie A., born Oct. 10, 1871; also one child by his first wife, viz., Charles A., born on the 3d of December, 1862; his mother died when he was but 6 months old, after which his uncle, William English, of Spartanburg, Randolph Co., Ind., took him to raise, where he now lives, but is making arrangements to engage in the drug business in Marshall, Ill. Mr. George has been identified with the various township offices since his residence here; has been clerk of the township for about twelve years, which office he now holds; was





appointed Deputy U. S. Marshal in 1870, having for his district, Adams, Franklin, Van Buren and Monroe Townships ; he was confirmed in the Lutheran Church in 1850, but after he came to Darke Co., Ohio, he cast his lot with the Presbyterians, his wife also being a member of the same church ; he has accumulated a considerable amount of property by his hard labor, connected with correct business and temperate habits, in which he has been assisted by his good and noble wife ; he owns 260 acres of land in Iowa, and about five acres in the corporation of Gettysburg, the whole valued at about \$6,000. Mr. George commenced life without any of this world's goods, and when he came West he borrowed \$50 to bring him here, and has met with many trials and troubles since he commenced life ; the greatest misfortune was in losing his right arm on the 19th of February, 1849, two and a half miles south of Gettysburg, Penn. ; while feeding a thrashing machine he unfortunately got his hand caught in the cylinder, and was mangled so badly that he was compelled to have it amputated ; he is a man who possesses an indomitable will, strictly honest, and a thorough business man ; strictly temperate, neither chews nor smokes tobacco ; is a great worker in the cause of temperance ; a Republican in politics.

**LEVI GILBERT**, farmer : P. O. Gettysburg. James, his father, was a native of Maryland, born in 1776 ; was taken to Pennsylvania by his parents, where he married Mollie Reeser in Lebanon Co., where they spent their days ; he departed this life about 1814 ; Mollie, his wife died in about 1816 ; six children were born to them ; three are living at the present writing, viz., Levi, Joseph and Benjamin. Joseph lives in Montgomery Co., Benjamin in Darke Co. Levi, the subject of this sketch, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Lebanon Co. on the 26th of September, 1806 ; he was left an orphan when quite young, thrust out on the cold charities of the world to fight the battles of life among strangers ; he lived in Lebanon Co. till he was about 16 years old, working for different persons for his clothes and board ; he would attend subscription school part of the winter, which tuition he paid himself ; he went to Dauphin Co., where he worked by the month on a farm for about one year and a half, after which he went to Lancaster Co., where he resided till he was about 30 years old, following teaming and farming. On the 8th day of December, 1829, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Mariah Spires, who is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Lancaster Co. on the 13th of July, 1808. In 1837, he and his family of three boys bade farewell to friends and their native county, started with a two-horse team for the West to better their condition, and on the 21st day of May they arrived in Miami Co., where he rented the Eller farm near Covington, where he remained about five and a half years, meeting with good success, during which time he purchased 110 acres in Adams Township, Sec. 19, all of which was under heavy timber, for which he paid \$400 ; after he purchased this tract of land, he commenced the task of clearing and opening up a farm, worked at spare times till he had cleared sufficient to put out a little crop ; during this time he had erected a log cabin, and in 1843 he moved his family into this mansion, where he has continued to reside ever since, but not in the old log cabin, as in the course of time he erected a beautiful two-story brick house, and other farm buildings. Mr. Gilbert has accumulated a considerable amount of property by hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife, both of whom have passed through the many struggles, dangers and incidents so common to the pioneer of the West ; they have a host of friends and are held in high esteem by all who know them ; they are active workers in the cause of religion, being members of the Evangelical Church, and the writer can truthfully say that they are living devoted Christian lives, and he will never forget that pleasant half and a half he spent in their company. May their days, which will be few in the body, be brightened by the golden light of spirit land—the summer land—and when they are through with the body may the passing-out be as a gentle zephyr. They are the parents of seven children, of whom six are living, viz., Henry, Samuel, Levi S., Frances (now Mrs. Merrick), Mollie (now Mrs. Holman), Elizabeth





(now Mrs. Reck), Elmira (now Mrs. Flomerfield); Henry, his son, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Lancaster Co. on the 23d of October, 1830; he spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, assisting in the clearing and the cultivation of the soil. He received a good common-school education in the district schools. At the age of 18, he commenced to learn the coopering trade in his father's shop, where he worked till he was 21 years old, after which he continued on his own responsibility till he was about 29 years of age, during which time he made his home with his father. He celebrated his marriage with Nancy A. Hill on the 28th of August, 1859; she was born in Miami Co. in 1839, and on the 12th of August the death messenger removed her from earth to heaven, leaving one child, who in seven days later fell asleep in death also. In two years and five months, he celebrated his second marriage, with Miss Mary E. Harry, who is a native of Montgomery Co., Ohio, born in Dayton in May, 1843; seven children by this union, viz.: William H., born Dec. 28, 1863; Samuel H., born September, 1865; John C., born March, 1867; Benit, born August, 1869; Edward O., born March, 1872; Vinie B., born November, 1876; May, born September, 1879. Mr. Gilbert resides on his father's farm, carrying on the coopering business during the winter and farming in the summer.

LEVI S. GILBERT, farmer, P. O. Gettysburg, Ohio; a son of Levi and Mariah Gilbert; was born in Lancaster Co., Penn., on the 13th day of September 1835; came with his parents to Ohio, locating in Miami Co., and in 1842 removing to Darke Co. where he spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, receiving his education in the district school; at the age of 16, he commenced to learn the coopering trade in his father's shop; he followed his trade about sixteen years, four years of which he worked in Gettysburg; in 1863, he sold out his shop and purchased a farm of 124 acres in Sec. 29, Adams Township, where he moved and has since resided; he now has ninety acres in a good state of cultivation, a beautiful brick house; a barn, 80x47 feet, which he erected at a cost of about \$1,500; on the 29th day of September, 1859, he celebrated his marriage with Rosana, daughter of Mathias and Arnstena, who was born in Montgomery Co., on the 28th day of December, 1840; five children have been born to them, viz., Elmer E., born August 9, 1862; Nora May, born December 5, 1865; Harry A., born Feb. 17, 1867; Edith J., born March 25, 1869; Raymond M., born March 7, 1874. Mr. Gilbert has accumulated a considerable amount of property, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife; he is strictly temperate in all his habits. In 1864, he enlisted in the 100-day service and went forth in defense of his country.

AARON HAHN; P. O. Gettysburg. The subject of this sketch was born in Mahoning Co., Ohio, March 26, 1816; he is a son of Samuel and Hannah (Pauline) Hahn, who were natives of Maryland; Mr. H. was born about the year 1790 or 1791, his wife in 1795; they came to Darke Co. in 1831 and located in Franklin Township; Mrs. H. departed this life in 1861; Mr. H. is still living, and resides in Greenville, with his son Amos. Our subject came to this county with his parents when 15 years of age, where he assisted his father on the farm during the summer season and attended the district school through the winter, thereby obtaining a good common-school education; he remained at home till 21 years of age, when his father gave him 93 acres of land, all under heavy timber; he then commenced the task of clearing and preparing the land for cultivation. On the 21st of March, 1839, he was united in marriage with Mary A. Reck, and located upon his farm, to which he had added until possessed of 184 acres in all; Mrs. H. departed this life May 11, 1853; their children were five in number by this union, of whom four are living, viz.: Mary E., born May 18, 1844; Jeremiah, Oct. 15, 1846; John E., May 21, 1850; Joseph, April 30, 1853; Mr. H. carried on his farm and cared for his children till Jan. 26, 1854, when he was united in marriage with Catherine Feeser; she was born in Frederick Co., Maryland, July 7, 1834; they remained on the farm in Franklin Township till 1863, when he sold, and bought 127 acres in





Adams Township, which he traded for 84 acres in Sec. 25, locating there in 1877, where he still resides; his residence is situated in the corporation of Gettysburg; he has been afflicted with palsy for several years, which has confined him to a room a greater part of the time; Mr. H. has in no way been an office-seeker; he has been identified with the township offices since his residence here; he has served as Trustee of Franklin Township for a period of six years, and has been Clerk and School Director; the children of Aaron and Catherine (Feeser) Harper were ten in number, of whom nine are living, viz.: Emeline, born April 15, 1857; William, Oct. 16, 1858; Martha E., May 5, 1860; Susanna C., Sept. 10, 1861; Laura B., May 16, 1863; Ansenora, Oct. 24, 1865; Samuel N., May 15, 1868; Sarah J., May 1, 1869, and Benjamin F., May 15, 1871. Mr. H. has passed through many hard struggles, trials and incidents of frontier life, and has accumulated a good property, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good wife. Mr. and Mrs. H. are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are good, consistent Christian people.

ROBERT L. HARPER, farmer; P. O. Horatio. He was born in 1812, in Pennsylvania, the son of Robert and Sarah Harper, both being born in Pennsylvania. He was married in 1832 to Martha Adams, daughter of George and Elizabeth Adams, who were born in Virginia, and came to Ohio in about 1810; George Adams—Col. Adams, as he was then called—was in the war of 1812, serving as Colonel all through the war, and bringing home the marks of active service, having seven bullets shot through his body; the issue of the marriage of the subject of our sketch were eight children, of whom five are now living, viz., William S., Thomas B., Robert, George and Martha Jane, all married and settled in life except Martha Jane, who is yet single and remains at home. Mr. Harper located upon the farm where he now lives, consisting of 81 acres, in the spring of 1833, and cut out the first stick of timber, made an opening, and put up a little log cabin, this being the only settlement around nearer than New Harrison, one and a half miles distant; from this beginning he labored, opening out and improving as time and means would permit, till now he has 60 acres cleared up and in good cultivation, with a good frame house and good barn; this has all been accomplished by diligent industry and energy, coupled with economy, he being \$300 in debt when he went on to the farm, and now he has the pleasure to enjoy the comforts around him for the rest of his life; Mr. Harper is a brother of Sanford Harper, of Greenville. This is a very remarkable example of early pioneer life, one who endured especially the toils and hardships incident to such a life, and it will stand recorded here upon the pages of this history, as a bright and shining example of what diligence and industry will accomplish, and will be read with interest and profit by children's children and future generations for ages to come.

ISAAC HARSHEY, furniture and undertaking, Gettysburg. The brother of David, a native of Darke Co., Ohio, born on the 23d of February, 1839; lived at home till he was 30 years old; attended school during the winter months in District No. 2, Adams Township, where he obtained a good common-school education, and at the age of 18 he commenced to learn pump-making, which he has, with cabinet-making, followed ever since, and he is at present carrying on the furniture and undertaking business with his brother; in May, 1864, he enlisted in the hundred-day service, joining himself with the 152d Regiment, Company C; he served four months, during which time he participated in several severe engagements, viz., Lynchburg, Va., and Sweet Springs, Va.; he was mustered out in September, 1864, after which he went to Illinois, where his father resided, and farmed with his father for two years, when he, with his father, returned to Darke Co., Ohio, and in 1868 he moved to Gettysburg, formed a partnership with John S. Plants, and carried on the pump and cabinet making business for about eighteen months, when they dissolved partnership, and he formed the present partnership with his brother. On the 2d of May, 1869, he celebrated his marriage with Margaret Layer, daughter of Peter and





Hannah Layer; she is a native of Darke Co., Ohio, born on the 25th of November, 1844; one child has been born to them, viz., Hannah B., on the 5th of September, 1871. Mr. Harshey is not a member of any church, but lives in his own soul's freedom, keeping the Golden Rule in view, being honorable, truthful and very conscientious in all his dealings with his fellow-man. He has, by hard labor, connected with correct business and temperate habits, accumulated some property, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife.

DAVID HARSHEY, of the firm of Harshey & Bro., manufacturers of furniture and undertakers, Gettysburg, Ohio; Jacob, their father, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Adams Co., in 1806. He married Elizabeth Deeter, who was born in Miami Co., Ohio, on the 20th of October, 1815; he came with his parents to Ohio in the fall of 1833, locating in Darke Co., where he purchased 160 acres in Sec. 29, Adams Township; he also entered 240 acres in Adams and Richland Townships; in September, 1864, he sold out and removed to De Witt Co., Ill., where he purchased 120 acres of prairie land near Clinton, the county seat: he had, however, previous to his moving to Illinois, purchased 200 acres in Fayette Co.; in 1865, his wife died, after which he sold out and removed to Darke Co., and purchased 80 acres in Sec. 29, Adams Township, where he remained about five years, when he sold out and purchased 41 acres in Franklin Township, where he moved and on the 12th of April, 1874, he departed this life, leaving a family of eight children, viz., Isaac, David, Hannah, John D., Jacob, Lucinda, Susanah and Elizabeth. David, the subject of this sketch, was born in Ohio, Darke Co., on the 17th of November, 1841, lived at home until he was about 18 years of age, receiving his education in the district school, after which he commenced to learn the carpenter's trade with G. W. Weaver, of Miami Co., where he worked about two and one-half years, when he engaged with B. Kepner, receiving good wages; he worked for him two years, after which he carried on the business on his own responsibility, meeting with good success; in June, 1863, he enlisted in the 152d O. V. I. Co. C. and went forth in defense of his country, serving three months, during which time he was in several severe engagements, viz., Sweet Springs, Va., on Greenbrier River, and was with Hunter when he made his raid on Lynchburg, Va., where he was repulsed; he returned home in September, and re-enlisted in September, 1864, in the 19th O. V. I. Co. F. for three years; during this campaign, he was in the battle of Ft. McAlister and the siege of Savannah, Ga.; he was mustered out in June, 1865; after his return from the army he followed his trade, and in 1872 he formed a partnership with his brother Isaac, in the manufacture of furniture and the undertaking business, in Gettysburg, where he has remained ever since; they have a complete outfit of machinery suitable for their business, and are doing a good business; on the 10th of November 1878, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Clara H., daughter of Samuel and Eliza M. Lehman, who was born in July, 1859; one child has been born to them, viz., Franklin Judson, born on the 26th of July, 1879; Mr. Harshey is strictly temperate in all his habits, and is a member of I. O. O. F., of Gettysburg.

EMANUEL HERSHEY, farmer and minister, Sec. 28; P. O. Gettysburg, Jacob, his father, was born in Lancaster Co., Penn., on 17th of November, 1796; he married Elizabeth Miller, who is a native of the same State and county, born on the 17th of May, 1804. Mr. Hershey lived, died and was buried in his native county, his death occurring on the 12th of August, 1872. Elizabeth, his widow, is living at present writing and resides in Lancaster City, Penn. Emanuel, the subject of this sketch, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Lancaster Co. on the 4th of February, 1821; spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, receiving his preparatory education in the district schools of his county, and, at the age of 17, he entered Litz College, where he obtained a good academic education. After his return from college, he worked two years in his father's flouring-mill, where he learned the trade, after which he went to Buffalo, N. Y., and worked in the Black Rock flouring-mills six months, when he returned home and worked in his father's mill till the spring of 1849, when he started for the West, and on the 9th of May





arrived in Darke Co., and then rented the flouring-mill one mile west of New Harrison, on Greenville Creek, which mill he operated for about seven years, when he moved on his farm of 30 acres, which he had purchased in 1853, and then commenced to burn lime, and at the same time operate his farm, to which he has added 112 acres, making in all 142 acres, with good farm buildings; he has been manufacturing sorghum molasses for about fifteen years, making from fifty to eighty barrels during the season, and has the credit of making the best grade of molasses in the county. He celebrated his marriage on the 14th of November, 1844, with Magdalena Bear, who was born in Lancaster Co., Penn., on the 10th of September, 1825; ten children have been born to this union, of whom nine are living, viz.: Adam B., born Jan. 9, 1846; Samuel, born Sept. 23, 1847; Jacob, born Sept. 12, 1849; Barbara Ann, born May 15, 1852; Sarah E., born Jan. 28, 1854; Emma, born Feb. 19, 1857; John, born Feb. 12, 1859; Eliza, born March 19, 1861; Mary, born Jan. 20, 1868. Mr. Hershey has had his full share of township offices, viz., served as Trustee of Adams for five years, and in 1879 was elected Land Appraiser of Adams Township. He takes a very active part in religion, being a member of the German Baptist Church and minister of Oakland Church for a period of ten years; his wife is also a member of the same church. Mr. Hershey has accumulated a considerable amount of property, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife. He is strictly temperate in all his habits.

ROBERT C. HORNER, farmer; P. O. Gettysburg; was born in Darke County, Ohio; was a son of Alexander and Eliza Horner; Alexander was born in Adams County, Penn., and was the son of James Horner, who was also born in Pennsylvania; Eliza's maiden name was McGargon. Robert C. was married in October, 1860, to Sarah Clark, daughter of Zachariah and Hester Clark; Zachariah was born in Pennsylvania; Hester was born in this county. Robert C. and Sarah Horner are parents of ten children, six of whom are now living, viz., Martha Rosella, Mary Hester, Ellen Pherba, Robert Elmer, James Harvey, and Eliza Leola; Robert lives upon the same farm his father came to in 1833, where he lived and died, his death occurring in 1871; when he came here in 1833, the place now known as Gettysburg was all a wilderness; the farm is now just outside of the corporation of Gettysburg; there was just a little cleared upon it when he came here; he originally purchased 189 acres, labored in clearing up and opening out the country till there are now about 120 acres in good cultivation, built a nice brick house, good barn, and other buildings; this has mostly been accomplished by his own labor and industry, and from time to time he purchased more land, till at his death, which occurred the 7th of February, 1871, he owned 390 acres all in one body, at which time it was all sold; and his son Robert, the subject of our sketch, bought and now owns 136 acres, upon which he has since resided; he has labored for building lots for the town about 4 acres; his farm being so near the town makes it quite valuable, a convenient home, and pleasant situation. His father was in the war of 1812; Robert was in the war of the rebellion; enlisted in the 152d Regiment O. N. G., in May, 1864; this regiment did some very active service; he served about four months, when he was discharged, and returned safely home to his family; he has held the township offices of Constable and Assessor, and is now Justice of the Peace; we are pleased to place upon the pages of this history a record and genealogy of another family of the early settlers of this country, whose life, industry and success stand forth to be read with pleasure and profit by the children's children for ages to come.

LEVI HUDDLE, retired farmer, Sec. 8; P. O. Webster, Ohio. Freshly married, his father, was born in Shenandoah Co., Va., on the 21st of September, 1791; he married Magdalena Boyd, who was a native of the same State and county, born on the 25th of August, 1792; they emigrated to Ohio in 1829, locating in Fairfield Co., where they remained about six months, when they removed to Montgomery Co., eight miles north of Dayton, where they resided until 1833, when





they came to Darke Co., locating in Wayne Township, near where Webster now stands, where, on the 5th day of June, 1834, he sank peacefully to rest in the *knowledge* of the blest immortality of the soul, as the veil had been lifted from the faculty of spirituality and the finer firs placed on the organ of clear sight, or clairvoyant faculty, and he caught a glimpse of that beautiful summer land; and here the writer desires to call attention to the remarkable accuracy and interesting account of his death, as given by his son Levi. A short time before his death, he caught a glimpse of the higher courts, in which he saw the day that he would leave his body and pass into spirit-life; this he related to his good wife and children, of which they did not understand, and passed it off as superstition; but on the day that the transition was to occur, there being several of the neighbors present, and his friends, to hear the good old man talk and give directions concerning his burial, etc., he placed himself in the large arm-chair, chatting all the while to his friends, and at the appointed hour, after bidding all good-bye, his arms fell lifeless by his side, when he drew one long breath, and his spirit had fled. Magdalena, his widow, survived the storm of life until the 27th of April, 1866, when she was found dead in her bed, her spirit having fled and joined the angel-band that was awaiting her arrival. They were the parents of five children, of whom two are living at present writing, viz., Catharine, and Levi, the subject of this memoir, who was born in Rockingham Co., Va., on the 20th of December, 1820; he spent his boyhood days on the farm, assisting his father in clearing land and cultivation of the soil; he received his education in the district schools; his father died when he was about 14 years old, which left his widowed mother with the family to his care and support, which duty he nobly performed; when he was 20 years old, he commenced to teach school; his first school was taught in an old log schoolhouse which stood on the farm where he now resides; he taught during the winter months, and in the summer he would farm and trade; he followed teaching for about twenty-three years, during which time he taught a term of eleven months in Vandalia, Montgomery Co.; while teaching here, he took lessons in higher arithmetic, algebra, penmanship and drawing, of Mr. David Ecker, and by hard study and close application he acquired a good academic education; in 1846, he traveled for a stove firm in Dayton, which he followed for about two years: he commenced work at \$1 per day, and after the first month, the firm raised his wages to \$52 per month, and at the close of the second month, his wages were raised to \$100 per month. In 1849, he entered the employ of William Mitchell, of Dayton, as salesman and collector, where he remained about one year, after which he followed the same business until 1851, but for another party; in 1851 he traveled for a Piqua firm selling notions, which he followed for about four years. On the 9th of April, 1854, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Lucinda, daughter of Abraham and Salome Hetzler; three children were born to them, of whom two are living, viz., Mary L. Lucinda, Sarah Jane R. In April, 1871, the messenger of death entered this peaceful and interesting family, removing the mother from earth to heaven. His two daughters are attending the Westerville College, from which they will graduate in 1880. He celebrated his second marriage on the 16th of September, 1872, with Mary, daughter of Anson and Lydia Aldrich; she is a native of Massachusetts, born on the 19th of September, 1845; the marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. William Jay. Mr. Huddle is the largest landholder in Darke Co., having accumulated a large amount of property by his hard labor, connected with strict temperate and correct business habits; he now owns 3,400 acres, all of which is paid for, of which 600 acres are in Greenwood Co., Kan.; 320 in Phillips Co., Mo.; 220 in Pike Co., Ill.; and the rest lies in Ohio and Indiana; he was one of the first stockholders of the State Bank of Ohio—William Scott, President, and Young, Cashier; and, when the bank was changed to the First National, he took \$11,000 stock; in the Citizens' Bank of Piqua, \$4,100; ten shares in the Farmers' National Bank of Greenville, and 100 shares in the Building Association of Greenville, twenty shares of which belong





to each member of the family. He is a member of the United Brethren Church, and his wife a member of the Christian Church, and his two daughters are members of the Methodist Church.

**JOHN A. HUNTER**, grain-dealer, of the firm of Williams & Hunter, Bradford, Ohio. Robert Hunter, the father of J. A., was born in Fairfield Co., Ohio, on the 24th day of August, 1818; Nancy Alexander, his wife, was born in Pennsylvania on the 26th day of August, 1826; six children were given to this union, of whom three are living, viz., John A., James A., and Anna B.; James A. was born on the 11th day of September, 1852; Anna B. was born on the 28th day of August, 1859; Mr. and Mrs. Hunter are still living and reside in Mercer Co., Ohio. John A., the subject of this memoir, was born in Fairfield Co., Ohio, on the 19th day of May, 1844; and in 1846 his parents moved near Fort Recovery, Mercer Co., Ohio, where he spent his boyhood days, assisting his father in the cultivation of the soil during the summer season, and attending the district school in the winter months till he was about 17 years of age, after which he entered the high school at Liber, Ind., attending about four terms, thereby obtaining a good academic education; in the spring of 1864, he responded to the call of President Lincoln for one-hundred-day men by enlisting in the 152d O. V. I., and went forth in the defense of his country: was mustered out of service at the expiration of term, after which he returned home and attended the Liber High School one term; he taught his first school in the winter of 1864-65 in Mercer Co.; followed teaching till 1870, teaching during the winter season and farming during the summer; was united in marriage with Miss Martha A. Bailey in West Liberty, Ind., on the 19th day of May, 1869; she was born in Luzerne Co., Penn., on the 22d day of September, 1846; two children were given to this union, viz.: Ella C., born Feb. 6, 1870; C. Austin Hunter, was born April 2, 1872. Mr. Hunter came to Darke Co. and located in Bradford in the fall of 1870, where he has continued to reside ever since; engaged in the grain business in 1871, and now has the largest grain elevator in Bradford, shipping on an average about 35,000 bushels during the season. Mr. Hunter has been identified with the township offices, more or less, since his residence in Darke Co.; was elected Justice of the Peace and Mayor of Bradford in the spring of 1878; has served one term as Trustee of Adams Township.

**JOHN B. KINNEY**, farmer: P. O. Horatio; was born in Greene County, Ohio, in 1830; was the son of John and Margaret Kinney; John was born in Pennsylvania and Margaret in Ohio; her maiden name was Brown, daughter of George and Debora Brown. Mr. Kinney, the subject of this sketch, was married in 1859 to Nancy Ellen, daughter of William and Elizabeth Spry, they being both born in Ohio; her grand parents were Henry and Martha Spry; Mr. Kinney and wife are the parents of five children, three of whom are now living, viz., Clinton Douglas, John Milton and Minnie E. Mr. Kinney spent one year, after he was of age, in traveling in the lightning-rod business; then he went into Mr. Burroughs' store, in Fairfield, Ohio, as salesman, where he remained with him about five years; then he went into partnership with Mr. Tate, in Trenout, Clark County, where he continued one year and sold out, and was married soon after and went back to Fairfield and was salesman for Mr. Burroughs for two years more; then he left there and went on to a farm in Greene County about one and a half years; then sold out and went into the fruit-tree trade for Forgy, McCaffry & Co., traveled one summer; then rented a farm for one season; then moved to Dayton and went into the tobacco business with J. P. Wolf & Co., where he remained four years; when he went to Darke County and bought the farm upon which he now lives, and moved with his family on to it and has followed farming since; he first bought 100 acres, but at various times he sold off from it till he had but 10 acres left; and during his trading he came in possession of a farm of 80 acres north of Versailles, after which he bought back 25 acres of the old farm, so that he now owns the two farms together, making 115 acres. Mr. Kinney has had his ups and





downs" in life, having lost much by going security and other ways; but, notwithstanding this, his industry and energy have enabled him to retain his property, and he has built new buildings on his farm, and is fixed very comfortably; he is a member of the Reformed Church, to which he has belonged about twenty-one years.

W. C. LECKLIDER, merchant and farmer, Horatio. Jacob, the father of W. C., is a native of Maryland, born on the 12th of April, 1802: came, with his parents to Ohio, while he was quite young. He married a Miss Willey; two children were born to them, of whom one is living, viz., W. C.; his wife died in about 1836. He celebrated his second marriage with Nancy Eshleman; they now reside near Greenville, Ohio. W. C. Lecklider, the subject of this sketch, was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, on the 13th of February, 1834; spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, assisting in the cultivation of the soil during the summer months, and in the winter attending the district school, where he obtained a good common-school education; when he was about 13 years old, he went to Greenville, Ohio, where he clerked in the dry-goods and grocery store of Swisher & Co. for about ten months: after which he went to Beamsville, same county, and clerked for J. H. C. Dill for a period of two years. He now came to the conclusion that it was not good to be alone, and on the 8th of March, 1855, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Margaret Riffle, who was born in Darke Co., Ohio, on the 4th of March, 1834; after his marriage, he moved to Ansonia, Darke Co., and engaged in the grocery and dry-goods business, which he followed for a period of twenty-four years, meeting with good success; he sold out and moved to Horatio in 1865 and engaged in the same business, carrying a full line of groceries and dry goods; in 1870, he purchased 90 acres of land, for which he paid \$4,150; he has erected a large two-story frame house, at a cost of about \$1,500; also a barn, 40x60, and other out-buildings; all of said property he has accumulated by his hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife; he is also strictly temperate in all his habits; Mr. Lecklider has never been a political aspirant, although he has been identified with nearly all of the township offices; served as Township Clerk for two years; was elected Justice of the Peace in the fall of 1875, which office he still holds; was appointed Postmaster at Horatio in 1870, which office he now holds, and during his residence in Ansonia, he was Postmaster for several years; was appointed ticket and freight agent at Horatio in 1869, of the P., C. & St. L. R. R., which agency he still holds. Seven children have been born to this union, viz.: Ira H., Jan. 18, 1856; W. Charles, July 30, 1857; Jacob H., March 2, 1859; Claudius G., Dec. 26, 1860; Ulysses G., Aug. 14, 1862; Arthur E., Nov. 19, 1867; Harvey B., March 11, 1870.

CHARLES LECKLIDER, farmer; P. O. Gettysburg; was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1842 was the son of Jacob C., and Nancy Lecklider; his father, of Jacob C., was born April 12, 1802, at Middletown, Frederick Co., Md.; was the son Lewis and Catherine Lecklider. Nancy was born in Pennsylvania. Jacob C. was married in August, 1825, to Charlotta Creagor; after a few years, being left a widower, in November, 1833, he was married to Catharine Willey, with whom he lived but a short time till death snatched her from his side, and in September, 1835, he was united in marriage to Nancy Eshleman; he is the father of twelve children, viz., John, Lucinda, William C., Henry, David V., Elizabeth, Catharine, Sarah Jane, Mary Ellen, Adaline, Charles and Francis C. Jacob C., the father of our subject, came to this county September 16, 1846, and located in Adams Township, on Sec. 22, but after residing here for a time he bought more land in Greenville Township, Sec. 32; the subject of our sketch was only 4 years old when his parents brought him into Darke Co. In 1874, he was married to Barbara, daughter of Emanuel and Martha Hershey, who came from Pennsylvania; they have one child, viz.: Judd; they located immediately after his marriage on his father's farm, where they have resided ever since; the farm consists of about 83 acres of good land, about 65 acres cleared and in good cul





**MARTIN MARTINDALE**, farmer, Sec. 13; P. O. Gettysburg. John, his father, was a native of North Carolina, born in 1798. He came with his parents to Ohio when he was about 3 years old, locating in Montgomery Co., where he spent his boyhood days on his father's farm; was united in marriage when he was 22 years old, with Mary Sidney, after which he obtained his education by boarding a school teacher. Unluckily for him, his wife died in about twenty-two months after they were married; one child was born to them, viz., Jesse, who now resides near Dayton, Ohio. His second marriage was celebrated with Amelia Campbell, who was a native of Ireland, born in about 1804; twelve children were born to this union, of whom ten are living, viz., Elizabeth, Robert, Samuel, Mary, Rachel, John, William, Steward, Martin and Rebecca. Mr. Martindale departed this life in March, 1858. Amelia, his widow, survived the storms of life till April, 1865. Martin, the subject of this sketch, is of Scotch descent on the paternal side, and Irish on the maternal, born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, on the 26th of January, 1839; he spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, assisting in the clearing and cultivation of the soil: obtained a good common-school education in the district schools of his county; he lived at home till he was about 22 years old, when, on the 18th of April, 1862, he celebrated his marriage with Rebecca C. Yount, who is of German descent; Fredric Yount, her father, was born in North Carolina; her mother is a native of Ohio. Rebecca was born in Miami Co., Ohio, on the 4th of June, 1842. After his marriage, he rented his father-in-law's farm, where he remained till September, 1862, when he purchased 79 acres of land in Adams Township, Darke Co., where he moved and has resided since; he has erected a beautiful two-story frame house, at a cost of about \$1,600, and has cleared or put under cultivation since his residence here about 22 acres, and at present has 59 acres in a good state of cultivation; has a good frame barn, 40x76 feet. Mr. Martindale has by his hard labor, connected with correct business and temperate habits, accumulated a considerable amount of property, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and industrious wife. They are active workers in the cause of religion, being members of the Christian Church. They have no children of their own, but have taken Sheridan Ingle, a bright and promising little boy, born on the 23d of September, 1867. Mrs. Martindale's grandmother was a native of Scotland, and her grandfather on her father's side, Duben Campbell, whose father was Duke of England.

**GEORGE W. MILLER**, farmer, Sec. 34; P. O. Gettysburg. Phillip, the father of George W., was a native of Maryland, born in 1775. He married Rachel Baldwin, who was a native of the same State, in 1793; he departed this life in his native State, in May, 1837; Rachel, his widow, remained in Maryland till 1844, when she, with her family of eleven children, emigrated to Ohio, locating in Darke Co., where she resided till her death, which occurred on the 16th of August, 1853, leaving a family of ten children, of whom seven are living at the present writing, viz., Abraham, Daniel, Joseph, Kisiah, Margaret, Rachel, Rebecca. George W., the subject of this sketch, was born in Carroll Co., Md., on the 13th of May, 1828; he came, with his mother, when he was about 16 years old, but lived with his brother Abraham, who resided in New Harrison, where he obtained a good common-school education; at the age of 18, he commenced to learn the blacksmithing trade with his brother, in the town where he resided; he only followed the business two years, when he began the carpentering trade with Samuel Paulin, where he worked for about two years; he then followed the trade on his own responsibility for about six years. On the 7th of October, 1853, he celebrated his marriage with Eliza Reck, who was born in Darke Co., Ohio, on the 14th of September, 1836; in 1863, he rented a farm, where he lived for a period of about six years, after which he purchased 27 acres of S. Rontzon, for which he paid \$1,600, where he has resided since. Mr. Miller has accumulated some property by his hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife. They are members of the Lutheran Church, and are living zealous and consistent.





Christians. Five children have been born to them, viz., Margaret A., Nov. 10, 1834; George W., Feb. 13, 1857; John E., Sept. 10, 1859; William H., April 20, 1862; Welby L., Aug. 13, 1867. Mr. Miller and his wife have passed through the many struggles, dangers and incidents so common to the pioneers of the West. Unfortunately for him, his father died when he was only about 9 years old, leaving his mother with eleven children, to survive the storms of life; but Providence smiled, sparing her life to see all her children grow into manhood and womanhood. George W., by his indomitable will and iron nerve, has fought the battles of life manfully, coming off more than conqueror. In 1864, he enlisted in the one-hundred-day service and went forth to battle for his country. Philip, his father, served in the war of 1821, and was at the bombardment of Baltimore in 1814.

ABRAHAM MILLER, retired blacksmith; P. O. New Harrison; is a native of Maryland, born in Frederick County, on the 9th of March, 1820; his father's sketch appears with his brother, Geo. W. Miller, in another place of this work: Abraham came to Ohio when he was about 21 years old; he obtained a good common-school education in the district schools of Maryland; he commenced to learn the blacksmithing trade when he was in his eighteenth year, at which he served two years. When he came to Ohio he opened up a shop in New Harrison, where he operated for a period of thirty years; meeting with good success, he now owns 70 acres of land, valued at \$4,000, all of which he has made by his hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife, to whom he was married on the 4th of December, 1845; she is a daughter of William and Christina Reck, born in Adams County, Penn., on the 17th of September, 1824, her name being Julia Ann; eight children have been born to them—viz., William R., Jeremiah, Abraham S., Eliza Christina, Rachel, Rebecca, Samuel (deceased), Henry H., Julia Ann; Mr. and Mrs. Miller are members of the Lutheran Church.

THOMAS O'BRIEN, retired farmer; P. O. Gettysburg, Ohio; Michael, his father, was a native of Ireland, where he lived, died, and was buried in his native country; he married Margaret Kilday, who was also a native of Ireland, born on the 15th of August, 1769; she emigrated to America with her daughter Ann, in 1850, landing in New Orleans, and in 1861 she came to Darke County, Ohio; she departed this life in Gettysburg, Ohio, at the residence of her son, on the 15th of August, 1879, at the advanced age of 110 years; the day of her death being her birth day, her friends and relatives were going to celebrate the day with joy and good wishes, but alas! the messenger of death entered the household and removed her from earth to heaven. Thomas, the subject of this sketch, is a native of Ireland, born in March, 1822; lived with his mother and worked on the farm during the summer, and attended subscription schools during the winter, and by close application he obtained a good common school education: at the age of 17, he emigrated to America, landing in New Orleans, and in 1841 he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he remained till June of the same year, when he began to travel from one State to another till he had visited nearly every city and State in the United States, during which time he worked at all kinds of work; and, at the breaking-out of the rebellion, he was working in Nashville, Tenn., acting as foreman of the corporation, in which he worked a squad of men on the public works, and had, by using economy, accumulated some money, but left the city; and in March, 1861, he came to Darke County, Ohio, locating in Van Buren Township, and followed farming; and in 1862 he purchased 62½ acres of land, for which he paid \$900, where he remained till 1872, when he rented his farm and purchased property in Gettysburg, where he moved and has resided since. On the 27th of March, 1857, he celebrated his marriage with Bridget Mannix; three children were born to them, of whom one is living, viz., Margaret, born on the 13th of April, 1859; his wife died Jan. 29, 1861. He celebrated his second marriage with Catherine Meagen on the 29th of January, 1865; she was born in Ireland in 1831, and emigrated to America in the fall of 1854; no children by this union. Mr. O'Brien has accumulated some property by his hard labor, in which he has





been nobly assisted by his good and industrious wife. He is a member of the St. Mary's Church of Greenville.

**DAVID PATTY**, farmer; P. O. Bradford, Ohio; James, his father, was a native of South Carolina, born on the 11th of November, 1805. He married Nancy Jones, who is a native of the same State, born on the 4th of October, 1814; they were married in Miami Co., Ohio, on the 3d day of April, 1831; shortly after their marriage, they moved to Darke Co., locating in Adams Township, Sec. 33; they commenced life with but little of this world's goods, but by hard labor, connected with temperate and correct business habits, accumulated a considerable amount of property. On the 26th of November, 1871, the angel of death entered their peaceful and interesting family, removing from earth to heaven James, the father, who was a loving father and a kind husband; Nancy, his widow, is living at the present writing on the old home farm. They were the parents of sixteen children, of whom only five are living, viz., David, Joseph J., Ennis E., Malinda, Nancy J. David, the subject of this sketch, was born in Darke Co., on the 10th of September, 1851; he spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, assisting in the clearing and the cultivation of the soil during the summer months, and attended the district school in the winter, thereby obtaining a good common-school education; he also attended two terms at Pleasant Hill (Miami Co.) Graded School, also two terms in Gettysburg, Ohio; on the 31st day of April, 1870, he met with a shocking accident; while tying a jack in the stable, the animal caught him by the calf of the left leg, chewing it so badly that he was compelled to have it amputated above the knee; Mr. Patty owns the old home farm, where he and his mother resides at present; his mother is a member of the Christian Church, living a zealous and consistent Christian. Children—Joseph J., born 23d of March, 1857; Ennis, born 26th of September, 1840; Malinda, 20th of October, 1842; Nancy J., 17th of February, 1853. Joseph J. is married, and has erected a beautiful two-story frame house on part of the old home farm.

**FRANKLIN PEIFFER**, blacksmith, Gettysburg, Ohio; is a son of Joseph Peiffer, whose biography appears in another place of this work, was born in Darke Co., Ohio, on the 26th day of June, 1854; he assisted his father on the farm until he was about 17 years old, when he commenced to work for himself, performing all kinds of work by the day and month, for different persons; followed the thrashing machine for several seasons; assisted in getting out railroad ties for some time, and also worked on the railroad as a section hand; he commenced to learn the blacksmithing trade when in his 20th year, with Albert Behme, at Painter's Creek, where he applied himself very closely for a period of three years, completely mastering his trade. On the 25th day of March, 1877, he was united in marriage with Margaretha E. Friedrich, who was born in Dayton, Ohio, on the 19th day of November, 1856; he moved to Dawn, Darke Co., and formed a partnership with G. W. Hartzell, and carried on blacksmithing for about seven months, meeting with fair success; sold out to his partner and moved to Painter's Creek, where he followed his trade for about nineteen months, after which he moved to Gettysburg, Ohio, and entered into partnership with his brother Jacob, where he now resides. Mr. Peiffer is a hard-working man, and, with the help of his good wife, will in a short time, receive the reward of his toil. They have one child—Mary Olive, who was born on the 27th day of September, 1877.

**JACOB PEIFFER**, blacksmith, Gettysburg, Ohio; Joseph G. Peiffer, the father of Jacob, is a native of York County, Penn., born on the 19th day of August, 1815; Magdalena Etter, his wife, is a native of Pennsylvania, born on the 1st day of August, 1817; they emigrated to Darke County, Ohio, in 1850, locating north of Gettysburg, where he rented a farm; in 1869, he purchased 64 acres in Franklin Township, where he now resides; have had seven children, of whom five are living, viz., Lucy, Michael, Jacob, Franklin and Peter A. Jacob, the subject of this sketch, was born in York County, Penn., on the 12th day of June, 1845; came with his parents to Darke County in the spring of 1850; lived with his





parents till he was 20 years of age, assisting his father on the farm during the summer, and in the winter attended the district school, thereby obtaining a common-school education. On the 2d day of May, 1864, he enlisted as a substitute for his brother-in-law in the one hundred day service, and went forth in defense of his country; served four months, after which he was mustered out of service and returned home. In 1868, he commenced to learn the blacksmithing trade at Painter's Creek, with Poock & Behme, and in two years, he, by strict and close attention to business, mastered his trade, and in 1870 he went to Woodington and worked jour work till the 1st of April, 1871, after which he worked in Greenville, Ohio, with Coonrad Baker, for about six months, when he returned home and worked on the farm a short time; on the 5th day of December, 1871, he formed a partnership with G. W. Hartzell, of Gettysburg, carrying on blacksmithing till 1873, when he sold out to his partner, and in June he made a visit to Pennsylvania, remaining about six weeks; returning to Gettysburg, he worked at his trade with Aaron Dershen till the fall of 1875, and in November he purchased property in Gettysburg, where he now resides; in April, 1879, he formed a partnership with his brother Franklin, and are now doing a good business, giving universal satisfaction to their patrons. He was united in marriage with Millie A. Shimp, in Gettysburg, Ohio, on the 4th day of February, 1875; she was born in Preble County, Ohio, on the 28th day of August, 1852; two children are the fruits of this union, viz.: Edith Pearl, born on the 29th day of December, 1875; Vernon Ellsworth, born on the 28th day of March, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Peiffer are members of the Lutheran Church, and are highly esteemed by all who know them.

THOMAS A. RAMSEY, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 31; P. O. Gettysburg, Ohio. Samuel, his father, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Berks Co. in 1780; was married to Ellen Fletcher, who was a native of England, born in Derbyshire about 1784; she came to America with two of her cousins when she was about 9 years old, locating in Pennsylvania, where she was married, and in 1811 they emigrated to Ohio, locating in Montgomery Co., two miles east of Dayton, on Gen. Finley's farm; at that time, there were only a few houses in Dayton, now a city of 65,000 inhabitants; six years later, he purchased 208 acres of land in Miami Co., about five miles from Troy, where he moved, remaining there until his death, which occurred in September, 1860; Ellen, his wife, died in about 1855. Mr. Ramsey served as a wagoner under Gen. Hull, in the war of 1812; he also performed guard duty at the old block-house which stood opposite Gettysburg, Ohio; he would pilot parties from the block-house to Greenville, and back again; but the decay and ravages of time have left no trace of the "old block-house." Thomas A., the subject of this sketch, is a native of Ohio, born in Montgomery Co., on the 17th of August, 1814; he was taken by his parents to Miami Co. when he was quite young, where he spent his boyhood days, assisting his father on the farm during the summer months, and attending school part of the winter, which at that time was kept up by subscription until within the last two or three years, when free schools were organized; he lived with his parents until he was in his 33d year, giving his entire services to them, knowing that by so doing his father would give him a good start in life; however, there was a strong attachment between the father and son; however, as he advanced in years, he concluded that he would engage in business for himself, and with due consideration he formed a resolution to take a partner for life, and on the 15th of April, 1847, he celebrated his marriage with Malinda Hoover, daughter of John and Mary Hoover, who was born in Ross County, Ohio, in 1826; after his marriage he moved on his farm of 50 acres, which his father had given him, and engaged in farming for about seven years, when he sold out and purchased 50 acres in the same county (Miami), near Tippecanoe, where he moved, but only resided there about one year, when he sold out for \$2,500, and moved on the Booher farm, consisting of about 500 acres; however, previous to his moving, he had been appointed guardian for



the Booher heirs ; he resided here for about nine years, during which time he lost his wife, her death occurring on the 27th of December, 1861 ; after her death he moved into the town of Tippecanoe, where he followed, or rather engaged in, the banking business on his own hook. In 1869, he purchased 197 acres in Darke County, Adams Township, for which he paid \$7,880 ; during the same year he moved, and has resided there ever since, and on the 3d of March, 1864, he celebrated his second marriage with Mrs. Adaline Litteral, whose maiden name was Snell, daughter of Eli and Evaline Snell, who is a native of Ohio, born in Miami County on the 23d of February, 1843 ; one child has been born to them, viz., Allie Grant, born on the 13th day of February, 1865. Mr. Ramsey is not a member of any church, but lives in his own soul's freedom, thinking, acting, and reading for himself, obeying the golden rule. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you ;" is strictly temperate in all his habits, and has accumulated a considerable amount of property, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife. He is a firm Republican, his first vote being cast for Martin Van Buren. Mr. Ramsey's father and mother were the parents of ten children, five boys and five girls, of whom seven are living at the present time of writing, viz., Eliza, John H., James H., Thomas A., Mary A., Margaret B., Lewis M., George B., Harriett E. and Alfred W.

**MICHAEL RECK**, farmer and mechanic, P. O. Gettysburg, Ohio ; John, his father, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Adams Co., in 1785. He married Miss Ann Hiner, who was a native of Maryland, born in Frederick Co., in 1788 ; they emigrated to Ohio in 1827, leaving Pennsylvania the 14th of October, arriving on the old Campbell farm on the 14th of November, moving in the house with Mr. Campbell, where they spent the winter, and in the spring they moved on the north west corner of Sec. 31, on the banks of Greenville Creek, and in 1831 he erected a saw-mill near where the flouring-mill now stands ; Mr. Reck laid out the town of Gettysburg, and named it after the Gettysburg in Pennsylvania ; he entered 92 acres in Darke Co. ; they were the parents of eleven children, six boys and five girls, ten were living when they came to Ohio, six of whom have survived the storms of life at the present writing, viz., Samuel, John, Eli, Lydia, Elizabeth and Michael. Mr. Reck departed this life on the 9th of February, 1878, being 93 years 10 months and 24 days old ; his wife died Sept. 11, 1856. Michael, the subject of this sketch, is one of Darke Co's old pioneers, who is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Adams Co., on the 23rd of October, 1810 ; he received his education in the District schools of Adams Co., Penn., and, being a natural mechanic, he spent the most of his time at carpentering, in preference to farming ; he came to Darke Co. with his parents, in 1828, being in his 17th year ; he continued to follow his trade, and in 1830 he performed the first carpentering work on the first schoolhouse built in the township. On the 20th of June, 1833, he celebrated his marriage with Eliza Hershey, and on the 28th of November, 1834, she passed from earth to heaven. He followed his trade for about twenty-three years. On the 28th of November, 1836, he celebrated his second marriage with Miss Mary Warwick ; after his marriage, he moved on a tract of land which contained 70 acres, that he had purchased in 1831, in Sec. 31, where he resided for a period of about six years, when he removed to Gettysburg, and engaged in the hotel business, which at that time was good ; he had built the stand in 1838 ; he remained here about six years, meeting with good success ; he then rented the hotel to William Fritz, and removed to his farm, where he remained till 1869, when he removed to Gettysburg, remaining about eighteen months, after which he removed to his farm, where he has continued to reside ever since ; in the course of time he traded the hotel property in Gettysburg, for a farm of 160 acres in Mercer Co., which he sold in 1862 for \$1,650 ; he now owns 181 acres and a house and lot in Gettysburg ; Mr. Reck has given to his children about \$11,000 in land and money ; he has, by his hard labor, connected with correct business and strict temperate habits, accumulated a large amount of property, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and





amiable wife, both of whom have passed through the many struggles, dangers, privations and incidents so common to the pioneer of the West, and are now reaping the reward of their toil; Mr. Reck would not accept any of the township offices, although they have been offered to him time and again. They are the parents of ten children, of whom eight are living, viz., Sarah A., born Jan. 24 1838; Wilkins, Nov. 14, 1841; Jeremiah S., Oct. 15, 1843; Frances, July 28, 1845; Nancy J., Sept. 29, 1848; Mary, Nov., 16, 1854; Charles E., May 16, 1852; James C., April 6, 1858. Mr. Reck has raised a large family and has taught them the great importance of industry and the use of carpentering tools.

WILLIAM L. RECK, miller and grain dealer; P. O. Gettysburg; the son of David Reck, whose biography appears in another place of this work; born in Pennsylvania, on the 10th of February, 1835; came with his parents to Ohio when he was in his 4th year; spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, and obtained his education in the first schoolhouse that was built in Adams Township; at the age of 21 he apprenticed himself to his brother to learn the carpentering trade, and at the expiration of two and a half years he completed his trade, and formed a partnership with his brother, carrying on the business for about six years, meeting with good success; dissolved partnership, and worked on his own responsibility till 1864, when, on the 2d day of May, he enlisted in the 100-day service, going forth in defense of his country; was mustered in the United States Service at Camp Dennison, where he joined the 152d O. N. G. Co. C, and was appointed Sergeant; joined the command of Gen. Hunter in Virginia; he was in several hard-fought battles and long and tedious marches, viz.: Lynchburg, Sulphur Springs, Liberty, etc.; on the 2d of September, 1864, he was mustered out at Camp Dennison; he enlisted in the State service, 28th Battalion, Co. D, and was appointed Third Sergeant; after his return from the army he was drafted, but hired a substitute, Joseph Allspaugh, who died in Wilmington, N. C.; in 1871 he purchased the half-interest in the Premium Flouring Mills, near Gettysburg, where he now resides; the mill has four run of buhrs, with a capacity of 100 bushels per day; the brand of flour brings the highest market price in the Eastern market; he handles about 150,000 bushels of grain during the year, always paying the highest market price. Was united in marriage with Mary Ann Trump on the 14th of August, 1859; she was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, on the 27th of April, 1840; seven children have been born to this union, viz.: Ervin, born June 10, 1861; Lanna Bell, Oct. 22, 1863; Horris, July 6, 1866; Harriett, July 6, 1866; Olive, May 22, 1868; Cora, May 16, 1870; Mary Blanch, Dec. 12, 1874. Mr. Reck has accumulated a considerable amount of property by his hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and industrious wife; he is a member of the Masonic Order, also of the I. O. O. F. of Gettysburg; he stands high in both orders, and is known as an honest, upright man in all his dealings, being strictly temperate in all his habits.

JACOB RECK, grain-dealer; P. O. Horatio, Ohio; is a son of Jacob and Mary M. Reck, who is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Bedford County on the 3d day of July, 1833. Jacob, his father, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1795; he married Mary M. Seibt, who was born in Maryland, near Chambersburg, in 1802. In 1837, he with his family were making preparations to move West, when death overtook him and he sank peacefully to rest, his spirit passing to the higher courts above, and in 1838, Mary M., his widow, with a family of six children emigrated to Ohio, locating in Adams Township, Darke County, where she bought a farm for which she paid \$800, all the money that she possessed, and for six years she with her family labored hard to keep from starving, living on corn bread the most of the time, but with willing hands and an indomitable will she survived the storm of life to see all of her children arrive at the years of maturity, and in 1868 her spirit joined the angel band that was awaiting her arrival to the summer land; her children are all living at the present writing, viz.: William, Samuel, Susan (now Mrs. John Morrison), Mary J. (now Mrs. Henry Erisman),





Anna E. (now Mrs. John Walker). Jacob, the subject of this memoir, lived with his mother till he was about 18 years old, during which time he assisted in the clearing and the cultivation of the soil during the summer months, and attended the district school part of the winter, and by close application to his books he obtained a good common school education; at the age of 18 he commenced to learn the carpentering trade with Levi Reck, for whom he worked a period of about eighteen months, when he accidentally cut his knee with the ax, which prevented him working away from home; however, while at home he built a kitchen for his mother, remained at home for about one year, when he formed a partnership with Perry Creager and engaged in the grocery and dry-goods business in Horatio, where they also bought and sold grain, which business they followed for about eleven years, meeting with good success; they sold out to Perry's brother, but one year later Mr. Lecklider purchased the property. He moved on his mother's farm and farmed for three years, after which he removed to Horatio, where he has resided ever since, working at all kinds of work, carpentering, plastering, buying grain, etc., and, in fact, is never idle. He celebrated his marriage on the 19th day of September, 1861, with Lizzie Werts, an accomplished daughter of Christian and Mary Werts; she was born in Mercer Co., Ohio, on the 6th of September, 1840; she has taught school four years; her parents reside in Mercer Co., Ohio. Mr. Reck has accumulated a handsome little fortune by his hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and industrious wife, connected with correct and temperate business habits. They are active workers in the cause of religion, being members of the Presbyterian Church of Gettysburg; three children have been born to them, of whom one is living, viz.: Ira W., born on the 13th of January, 1868. The shadows of two great afflictions have rested upon the family hearth-stone during the past ten years—that of little Noah, a bright and promising little boy of 6½ summers, who came to his death by a stick of wood falling on him, killing him instantly; Estella, an interesting child of 18 months, was called to join her angel brother in that beautiful summer land. Mr. Reck is not a political aspirant, refusing all offices offered him.

JOHN RECK, farmer; P. O. Gettysburg. He is a son of John Reck, whose biography appears with Michael Reck's, who is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Adams Co., on the 27th of February, 1814; lived with his parents and assisted his father on the farm during the summer months, and attended subscription school a part of the winter, till he was in his 14th year, when he, with his parents, emigrated to Ohio, locating in Darke Co., Adams Township, while at that time there was not a schoolhouse in the township, and during the summer of 1830 he assisted in the erection of the first schoolhouse, and completed his course of studies in the same, although he did not have the opportunity of attending the school as much as he desired, as he was compelled to assist his father in clearing and preparing the soil for cultivation; he remained at home, helping his father to open up the farm, till he was 23 years old, except at times he would assist his brother Michael in carpentering. On the 5th day of January, 1837, he celebrated his marriage with Isabell Belew, who was born in Miami Co., Ohio, on the 13th of January, 1819; after his marriage he erected a hewed-log house on Sec. 31, a tract of land which his father had given him as his share; he then moved what little furniture they had, which consisted of one bedstead and bedding, seven splint-bottomed chairs, one set of cups and saucers, one set of plates, one skillet, two Dutch ovens and a teakettle; the cupboard he made himself, and in fact he made nearly all of his furniture, as he was a natural mechanic; he then commenced the task of clearing and opening up his farm; he did not spend much time in hunting, but put all his time in on his farm, although he has killed several deer by torchlight on Greenville Creek. He remained on his farm for a period of about four years, after which he rented his farm and moved to his father's saw-mill, on Greenville Creek, where he took charge of the sawing, which he followed for nearly seven years, when he removed to his farm, where he has resided ever since, and, by hard labor, connected



with correct business and strictly temperate habits, he has cleared nearly 100 acres, accumulating a considerable amount of property, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and industrious wife, both having passed through the many struggles, dangers and incidents so common to the pioneer of the West : having fought the battles of a pioneer life bravely, they are now reaping the reward of their labor. They have had a family of six children, of whom three are living, viz.: Isaac, born July 13, 1838; Silas, July 20, 1844; Rebecca, June 12, 1846. Mr. Reck relates a very interesting account of a remarkably large white-oak tree which stood on his farm; he felled it with his ax, and it took him about three-quarters of a day to cut it down, which, when down, measured eight feet through; from which tree he made 730 rails from 7 o'clock A. M. till 4 P. M. Where could there be found a young man at this time who could perform the same amount of labor in a week? He now owns 160 acres, with good farm buildings, etc., and has given his children to the amount of about \$7,000. Mr. and Mrs. Reck are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are living zealous and consistent Christians, having been members of the church for about forty-two years.

DAVID RECK, retired farmer; P. O. Gettysburg, Ohio. Christian Reck, the father of David, was born in Littlestown, Penn.; was married to Sophia Buker, who was born in Pennsylvania; nine children were born to this union, six boys and three girls. Mr. and Mrs. Reck spent their days in Pennsylvania; he died about the year 1806; she died about the year 1820. David, the subject of this sketch, is a native of Pennsylvania, born within seven miles of Gettysburg, on the 14th day of October, 1803; was left an orphan when only 3 years old; lived with his mother until he grew to manhood, working on the farm, taking care of his mother until she died, and attended subscription school whenever the opportunity presented itself, and by close application acquired a good common-school education. Was united in marriage with Miss Ann Maria Lightner, in Adams Co., Penn., on the 5th day of January, 1826; she was born in Maryland on the 14th day of July, 1800; he followed farming during his residence in Pennsylvania; on the 14th day of October, 1839, he started with his family in a two-horse team for the West, bidding farewell, perhaps forever, to friends, old acquaintances and his native country, to seek a home in the Far West, where nature's stillness reigned supreme, only broken by the howling of the wolf and the whoop of the red man; on the 14th day of November, just one month from the time of starting, he with his little family arrived in Darke Co., Ohio, locating about one and a half miles east of where Gettysburg now stands; rented a tract of land and commenced the task of clearing up a farm; remained here about three years, during which time he lost his wife, a sad misfortune. On the 23d day of August, 1841, the messenger of death entered this peaceful and interesting family, removing from earth to heaven, the mother of the family, after an illness of eleven days. In 1842, he bought 154 acres in Van Buren Township, where he resided until 1877, after which he sold his farm, and is now living with his children. Six children were the fruits of this union, of whom five are living, viz., Levy, born on the 22d of November, 1826; Sophia, born on the 20th of February, 1829; Franklin, born on the 18th of January, 1832; William, born on the 10th of February, 1835; Ann Maria E., born on the 24th of March, 1838; Amos, born on the 25th of December, 1841, and on the 23d of March, 1876, left his body and has gone to join his angel friends. Mr. Reck is a member of the Presbyterian Church, connecting himself with the organization in 1874.

JOSHUA ROHR, farmer and fine stock-raiser, Sec. 6; P. O. Webster, Ohio. Fredrick, his father, was a native of Batavia, Germany, born in 1801; he emigrated to America in 1820, locating in Maryland; he married Miss Catharine Arnold, in 1826, in Maryland; in 1828, they came to Darke Co., locating where his son Joshua now resides, which at that time was a dense forest; they remained there till February, 1864, when they removed to Miami Co., where Mr. Rohr came to his death by a saw-log rolling off the wagon, which caught his leg, crushing it horribly,





so that amputation of his limb was necessary, from which he never recovered, only surviving 36 hours after the amputation—this occurred on the 25th day of June, 1864. Catharine, his widow, survived the storms of life till on the 15th day of April, 1878, when she sank peacefully to rest in the knowledge of the immortality of the soul, living with her daughter Catharine in this county at the time of her death. They were the parents of nine children, of whom eight are living, viz.: Joseph, born in 1830; Lucy Ann, born in 1832; Joshua, born in 1833; John, born in 1836; William, born in 1838; James Madison, born in 1840; George F., born in 1842; Catharine, born in 1846; all of whom live in Darke Co., except Lucy Ann and George F. Joshua, the subject of this sketch, was born in Darke Co., on his present place of residence, on the 13th day of October, 1833; he lived at home till he was four days past 21 years, assisting his father in the clearing and the cultivation of the soil during the summer, and in the winter he would attend the district school perhaps about a week, going in all to school about six months of his life; the first school he attended was taught by Levi Huddle, on the farm of Levis, which was about two miles distant; when in his 20th year, he attended about one month, being the longest time he ever attended at one time, also being his last school. When he was four days past 21, his father gave him \$2 and told him to go and earn his own fortune, which he did; he went to Miami County and worked on a farm for two years, and, on the 27th of November, 1856, he celebrated his marriage with Louisa Koster, daughter of Gerhard A. and Anna J. Koster; she was born in Germany on the 17th of July, 1837; her parents were born in Germany, in the kingdom of Hanover; they were married in September, 1825, and in 1845 emigrated to America in the sail vessel Albert, being fifty-nine days on the ocean, landing in Baltimore; thence to Cincinnati, Ohio, remaining but a short time when they moved to Minster, where they remained till the death of Gerhard, which occurred August 25, 1846, when his widow, with her four children moved to Piqua, Ohio, where she resided till the marriage of her daughter Louisa, with whom she resides at present. After his marriage he rented a farm two miles north of Piqua, where he remained three years, and January 1, he purchased the old homestead, which consists of 107 acres, for which he paid \$3,500, removing to the same on the 27th of March, 1860, where he has continued to reside ever since, and in 1871, he purchased of Benjamin Overholser 53 acres, joining on the west, making in all 160 acres, nearly all of which is in a good state of cultivation; he erected a handsome bank-barn, 40x80 feet, in 1874, and in 1875 he erected a magnificent two-story brick house. Mr. Rohr is an admirer of fine stock, taking great pride in the raising of the same. Mr. Rohr is strictly temperate in all his habits, and has accumulated a large amount of property by his hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife; six children have been born to them, of whom five are living, viz.: Charles A., born May 18, 1859; Anna Jane, born March 5, 1864; Franklin E., born Jan. 11, 1866; Ella Bell, born Aug. 1, 1869; Ida May, born May 23, 1871.

**SYLVESTER RYNPEARSON**, farmer and stock-raiser. Sec. 26; P. O. Gettysburg. Abraham, the father of Sylvester, is a native of Ohio, born in Warren Co. on the 27th of April, 1812. He married Rachel Ball, who is a native of the same State and county, born on the 12th of August, 1817; they have seven children living, viz.: Sylvester, Alice (Mrs. Huffer), Emeline, Stroud, Cyrus, Minerva (Mrs. Fouts) and Letha. Mr. Rynpearson came to Darke Co. in 1836, where he now resides, being 67 years old; Rachel, his wife, being 62. Sylvester, the subject of this memoir, is a native of Ohio, born in Warren Co. on the 5th of December, 1835; he received a good common-school education in the district schools; he remained at home till he was 21 years of age, assisting his father in the cultivation of the soil; he then left home and began to work for himself by the month on the farm, which he followed for a period of four years, except three months, when he worked in a flouring-mill, and in four years he put in forty-four months of hard work, which speaks volumes for his industry and correct business habits; in the four





years' work he saved \$350; however, during this time, he made a visit to Iowa (Mahaska Co.), where he worked on a farm, receiving \$15 per month part of the time, and \$10 for the other. On the 1st day of November, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company C, 5th Iowa Regiment (infantry), James A. Suvers, Captain of the company, and Col. H. T. Reid, regimental commander; he was an entire stranger to all, but approached the Captain with the salutation, "Captain, I have come to enlist in your company." This regiment, when its organization was commenced, in November, 1861, was intended by Gen. Fremont for the protection of Missouri; when it was mustered in at Keokuk, in 1862, the programme was changed and it was sent down to do duty on the Tennessee River; they joined Grant's army at Pittsburg Landing, and in the battles of the 6th and 7th they lost one-fourth of their number; and it was in these hard-fought battles that he ever fired an army gun, the first fire being at the would-be destroyers of the Union. Mr. Ryneanson, as well as the 15th Iowa V. L., has a proud record; for three years and a half he, with his company, bore the brunt of battle, participating in many of the hardest fought engagements of the West, from Pittsburg Landing down to the capture of Vicksburg, Atlanta, and all the bloody battles preceding it; followed Sherman in his conquering march through the heart of the South, and their battle-torn standards bear them witness that they preserved their valor well. Mr. Ryneanson entered the company as a private, but, through his heroism, strictly temperate habits, and his intelligence, filled every non-commissioned and commissioned office of the company, returning as Captain of Company C. The original strength of the regiment was 1,038; of these only 712 remained on the roll, and only 535 officers and men were present to be mustered out on July 24, at Louisville, Ky. Their several marches, added together, show that during his service he marched 7,898 miles. The company entered the service with 108 men, of whom only fourteen returned home. He was in twenty-two hard-fought battles, and was under fire of the enemy from the 9th of June, 1864, until the 2d of September, 1864; he participated in every engagement that the company had, every march; sickness never prevented him from discharging his duty, and returned home without a scratch from the enemy's bullet, receiving his discharge at Davenport, Iowa, on the 3d of August, 1865. After his return, he followed farming for his father, and in June, 1866, he purchased 100 acres of land near Farmland, Randolph Co., Ind., for which he paid \$4,000. On the 13th day of September, 1866, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Mary Jane Clark, an accomplished young lady, daughter of John and Sarah Clark, who was born in Warren Co., Ohio, on the 29th day of December, 1839. In the fall of 1866, he moved on his farm, where he remained until 1870, when he sold his farm for \$5,300, and purchased 140 acres in Darke Co., Ohio, Adams Township, Sec. 26, paying \$11,000, where he now resides. Mr. Ryneanson has accumulated a considerable amount of property by his hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife. They are active workers in the cause of religion, being members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Gettysburg; he is a charter member of the Masonic order of Gettysburg; also one of the managers of the Darke County Agricultural Society; recommended by Gen. W. W. Belknap, who says of him: "He is a very worthy man, and was a gallant officer of my regiment (15th Iowa), during the war." They have one child, viz., Eddy, born in Randolph Co., Ind., on the 23d of June, 1867.

JOHN H. SCOTT, Bradford, Ohio. Philip Scott, the father of John H., was born in Warren Co., N. J., on the 5th day of June 1814; was united in marriage with Miss Elnor Beaty, who was born on Staten Island, N. Y., in 1804, and in the year 1862, the death angel entered this peaceful family and removed from earth to heaven a kind and loving mother, who has gone to join the throng of her angel friends. Mr. Scott came to Darke Co., Ohio, in the spring of 1870, and at present resides with his son, in Bradford; he is a plasterer by trade. Is a Master Mason, being a member of Eagle Lodge, No. 53, Hudson City, New Jersey.





John H. the subject of this memoir, was born in Hudson City, N. J., on the 10th of July, 1847. Lived with his parents, spending his boyhood days in Hudson City, attending the city school till he was about 15 years old, thereby obtaining a good common-school education. Left home when he was in his 16th year, to fight the battles of life alone, traveling until he found himself in the State of Kansas, where he remained for about three years, following agricultural pursuits. He then went to Texas, where he engaged in the Government mail service, carrying the mail between Clarksville, Tex., and Washington, Ark., for a period of about fourteen months, after which he returned to Northern Kansas, but only remained there a short time, when he went to Wilson Co., remaining there about six months, after which he started for New Jersey, but changed his course, and went to Springfield, Ohio, where he remained for about one year, and in 1871 he came to Bradford, Darke Co., where he now resides; has followed plastering in Darke and Miami Counties for about four years. Was united in marriage with Miss Catharine Kendrick, in Winchester, Ind., on the 23d of February, 1873. She was born in Darke Co., on the 26th day of September, 1858; two children were given to this union, viz.: Lilly M., born September 30, 1874; Nora May, born October 30, 1876.

JACOB SENSEMAN, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Gettysburg. Daniel, the father of Jacob, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Lancaster Co. in 1797; Mary, his wife, whose maiden name was Frey, is a native of the same place, born on the 5th of June 1806; they moved to Cumberland Co., Penn., in 1825, where he practiced medicine till his death, which occurred in 1835; Mary, his widow, is living at the present writing, and resides in Pennsylvania, being nearly 74 years old; they were the parents of six children, of whom four are living, viz., Reuben, Hiram, Jacob and Sarah A. Jacob, the subject of this sketch, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Cumberland Co. on the 22d of October, 1831; he spent his boyhood days in Mechanicsburg, Penn., where he obtained his preparatory education in the city schools, after which he entered the academy, receiving a good academic education, and at the age of 18 he commenced to teach school, which profession he followed for a period of about twenty-six years; he came to Ohio in the fall of 1857, locating in Miami Co., and engaged in teaching, remaining in the county four years, after which he removed to Darke Co., Adams Township, in 1861, where he has resided ever since; he owns 128 acres of land where he resides, and 180 acres in Cass Co., Ind., the whole valued at \$18,480. He was united in marriage with Miss Catharine J. Thompson on the 25th of February, 1858; she is the daughter of Bonaparte and Justina Thompson born on the 5th of June, 1838; two children have been born to this union, viz.: Henrietta C., born Nov. 26, 1858; William G., born March 2, 1873; Mr. Senseman has had his full share of township offices since his residence in the county; he served as Trustee of Adams Township four years, Supervisor two years, and Pike Superintendent one year; Mr. Senseman commenced life with about \$365, and has by hard labor and good management, accumulated a considerable amount of property, in which he has been nobly assisted by his wife; they are members of the German Baptist Church.

HARMON R. STAHL, farmer; P. O. Horatio, Ohio. Jacob K., his father, was a native of Pennsylvania born in 1810; came to Ohio with his parents when he was quite small; he married Sarah Limber, who was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1818; they were the parents of nine children, of whom four are living at the present writing, viz., Davis J., Henry J., Ella, Harmon R. Mr. Stahl departed this life in 1861. Sarah, his wife in 1879. Harmon R., the subject of this sketch is a native of Ohio, born in Darke Co., on the 7th of April, 1844; lived with his parents till he was 21 years old, assisting his father in the cultivation of the soil during the summer, and attended the district school during the winter months, thereby obtaining a good common-school education, and on the 10th day of February, 1867, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Lucy Rudy, daughter of Isaac and Mary Rudy, who was a native of Ohio, born in Darke Co. in 1847. After his marriage, he rented a farm and





engaged in farming, and on the 9th of April, 1871, the messenger of death entered the household, removing Lucy, his wife, from earth to heaven. Two children were born to this union, viz., Luella and Adnah L. On the 12th of February, 1877, he celebrated his second marriage, with Estella F. Myers, daughter of Samuel K. and Frances B. Myers, who was born in Miami Co., on the 28th of March, 1858. One child has been born to them, viz., Harry Harmon, born on the 5th of May, 1879. Mr. Stahl now owns and resides on the old home farm. He has been troubled of late with bronchial affections. He has, by his hard labor, accumulated considerable amount of property, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife.

DANIEL SWADNER, farmer; P. O. Horatio; was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1820; was the son of Henry and Eleanor Swadner, who were born in Maryland; they had nine children, viz., Mary Jane, Daniel, Samuel, Sarah Ann, Elizabeth, Clarinda, Lavina, Charlotte and Henry; Eleanor's father was Jacob Suman. Mr. Swadner was married in 1859 to Margaret Bobo, born in 1822, daughter of John and Elizabeth Waltz, and was born in Montgomery Co.; her father, John, was born in Maryland, and her mother in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Swadner was a widow, being first married to John Bobo, by whom she had one child, viz., John L., who is now living. Mr. Bobo died in 1851, while crossing the Plains on his way to California. They are parents of two children, viz., Henry A. and Samuel F. Mr. Swadner moved to this county in 1869, upon the farm he now lives upon, consisting of 80 acres; when he came here, there were about 20 acres cleared; now he has 55 acres cleared and in good cultivation, and has put up all the buildings, having a good two-story frame house and good barn, and other buildings for convenience and comfort. Mr. Swadner is one of those who has had to make his own fortune, starting without capital, but by industry and diligence in business, has a good farm and a competency for comfortable living. Mr. Swadner is a member of the Reformed Church; has belonged to same some forty years; his wife belongs to the Lutheran, having joined them about forty years ago, also. Thus, while we here see one who has made a good record, in the work of acquiring property and the comforts of life, we also see a long service in the church, and their example will stand as a bright and shining light for their children's children for ages to come.

JOHN TILMAN, farmer and stock-raiser; Section 28; P. O. Greenville. The subject of this sketch is a native of Ohio, born in Preble Co. on the 16th of July, 1816; spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, receiving his education in the subscription schools in the unique schoolhouses so peculiar to those days. On the 26th of July, 1838, he celebrated his marriage with Thisby Snyder, who was a native of New Jersey, born on the 18th of May, 1817. In 1838, he moved to Darke County, locating in Neave Township, on a tract of land consisting of 160 acres which his father gave him, which, at that time, was a dense forest; he erected a log cabin, moved in and commenced the hereulean task of clearing and opening up a farm, and in a few years the mighty forest had disappeared, and in place of the "little log cabin" a beautiful brick house now stands erected at a cost of \$1,500, also a barn 40x60 feet erected at a cost of \$800; he added 160 acres more, making in all 320 acres with 240 acres under a good state of cultivation. In 1869, he purchased his present place of residence, 156 acres, at a cost of \$7,304; he has cleared about 40 acres since his residence here; he now owns 470 acres, 150 in Adams Township, and 320 in Neave, the whole valued at \$36,000, all of which he has made by his hard labor, connected with correct business and temperate habits. In the spring of 1843, he lost his wife, after an illness of three years; two children were born to them, of whom one is living, viz., Anderson, born March 26, 1841. In 1846, he celebrated his second marriage with Margaret Daughterty, who was a native of Ohio, born on the 7th of September, 1818; four children were the result of this union, of whom three are living, viz.: Nancy A., born April 21, 1848; Martha and Cellia (twins), born Dec. 5, 1850; Humphry D., born April 2, 1856; and on the 16th of March, 1879, the angel of death entered this peaceful





family, removing Mr. Tilman from earth to heaven; she was a loving mother and a devoted wife. Mr. Tilman is not a church member, but known as an honest, upright man.

**WILLIAM VOGT**, merchant, Gettysburg, of the firm of Martin & Vogt, who have just received the largest and most complete stock of groceries ever brought to Gettysburg, also a complete stock of choice cigars and smoking tobacco, with a large variety of notions and hardware. William is a son of Henry Vogt, who is a native of Darke Co., Ohio, born on the 25th of February, 1857; he spent his boyhood days in Gettysburg, where he received a good common-school education; at the age of 17, he went to Louisville, Ky., where he clerked in a grocery store for a period of about two years and a half, after which he returned home, where he has remained ever since. In the spring of 1879, he was elected Constable, which office he still holds. He is a member of the National Guards, Co. G, 3d Regiment. Mr. Vogt is a live, energetic, thorough-going business young man; he is not a member of any church organization, but lives in his own soul's freedom, thinking, reading and acting for himself, keeping the golden rule in view.

**HENRY VOGT**, the father of William, is a native of Germany, born in Hesse on the 17th of August, 1817; spent his boyhood in Germany, where he obtained a good education in the German; in 1848, he, in company with his brother John, emigrated to America, landing in Baltimore on the 9th of May, after a long and tedious voyage. On the 23d of August, 1848, he celebrated his marriage in Baltimore with Margaret Cohn, who is a native of Germany, born on the 28th of May, 1824; in 1849, they started for the West by rail as far as Cumberland, Md., when his wife took passage on the stage-coach for Pittsburgh, while he walked to Brownsville, a distance of seventy-five miles, where he boarded a steamboat and met his wife in Pittsburgh, and on his arrival he found that their baggage had been left at Cumberland by mistake; so he returned to Cumberland, and obtained the baggage, which he sent through by stage, while he returned to Brownsville on foot, from which he returned to Pittsburgh by steamboat, where he joined his wife, after which they took passage on a steamboat for Cincinnati, Ohio, where she remained one week, while he went to Dayton by stage, from where he walked to Darke County, arriving in Gettysburg on the 13th of April, 1849; his wife came through with his brother-in-law on the 17th; he rented a house, moved in, and commenced housekeeping, he working around by the day and month at all kinds of work for about two years, when he hired to work in the tannery in Gettysburg by the month, receiving \$15, and boarded himself; after four months, he then received \$20 per month, working for about two years, when his wages were raised to \$1 per day; at the expiration of two years, he became a partner in the business, operating till March, 1860, when he traded for the tannery, which he still owns; he now owns 51 acres of land in Sec. 24, Adams Township, but resides in Gettysburg on his own property. Mr. Vogt had but little of this world's goods when he started in life, but by hard labor, industry and correct business habits, he has accumulated a considerable amount of property, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and industrious wife; he has been identified with the township offices, viz.: Served as Pike Superintendent one year, Supervisor one year, School Director one year, and a member of the Town Council two years. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church; they are the parents of nine children, of whom four are living, viz., Christian H., Augustus H., William and Louisa.

**JOHN WEAVER**, farmer; P. O. Gettysburg, Ohio. Elijah, his father, is a native of Virginia, born in 1820; Sarah, his wife, whose maiden name is Elmore, was born in Miami Co., Ohio, in 1833; he came with his parents to Ohio in 1821, locating in Highland Co., near where New Petersburg now stands; he resided about five years in Highland Co., after which he came to Miami Co., where he lived eleven years when he moved to Darke Co., in 1837, where he has resided ever since; they are the parents of six children, viz., Andrew, John, Henry, Charles



Jennie, Anna Bell ; Henry, the father of Elijah, was born in Virginia, on the 22d of November, 1793. He married Susan Winters, who was born in 1793 ; Peter Weaver, the father of Henry, laid out the town of New Petersburg, in Highland Co. ; Henry, Elijah's father, departed this life on the 22d of November (being his birthday), 1865. Susanah, his wife, in 1866. She had a very remarkable dream a short time before her husband's death, in which she was warned of the death of her husband, also of her own, which was to occur just one year after her husband, and in one year and two days from that time, she sank peacefully to rest. John, the subject of this sketch, is a native of Ohio, born in Darke Co., on the 24th of September, 1852 ; he spent his boyhood days on his father's farm assisting in the cultivation of the soil, receiving his education in the district schools ; when he was 18 years old, he went to Dayton, Ohio, where he worked for Peter Bolander in the fruit-tree nursery for about six months, after which he returned home and rented 6 acres of his father and engaged in the fruit-tree business on his own hook, and at the same time worked on the farm, which he followed for a period of about two years, meeting with good success ; he followed buying and selling cordwood, which he hauled with team for one season, after which he concluded to take in a partner for life. On the 15th of April, 1875, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Hattie A. Butt, daughter of Simon and Lovina Butt, who was born in Darke Co. on the 28th of January, 1852 ; after his marriage he rented his father's farm and engaged in farming, where he resided for about two years, after which he moved on his father-in-law's farm, where he has resided ever since. Mr. Weaver is a young man of good moral habits, a live, energetic, thorough business man, and, with the help of his good and amiable wife, has accumulated some property ; one child has been born to them, viz., Simon Homer, born on the 5th of November, 1879.

DAVID G. WENRICH, farmer and dealer in agricultural implements ; P. O. Bradford, Miami Co., Ohio ; was born in Adams Township, Darke County ; is a son of David and Elizabeth (Grubb) Wenrich. David was born in Dauphin Co., Penn., Jan. 1, 1816, and was a son of Thomas and Esther (Brandt) Wenrich. Thomas Wenrich was born in Berks County and his wife in Dauphin Co., Penn. ; being poor folks, they hired out their son David to work at farming, until, in his 17th year, he went to learn the cabinet and carpenter trade, which he followed till nearly 21 years of age. Having a desire to see the Western country, he then took a trip to Ohio, landing at Dayton, where he made a short stay : he then went to Salem and worked at his trade for about six months, when he went to Miami County, near Covington, and worked as journeyman at his trade for one year. In the mean time, his parents immigrated to Miami County, and located where Bradford, in part, now stands. On the 1st of March, 1838, he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Grubb, who was born in Miami Co., July 22, 1818, by whom he had eight children—Mary, born in Miami Co., Oct. 10, 1839 ; Hettie, Jan. 8, 1842, and died in 1866, leaving one of her two children ; John, Feb. 6, 1844 ; Levi, born in Darke Co., Oct. 7, 1846 ; David, Nov. 25, 1849 ; Malinda, May 5, 1852 ; Martha, Oct. 31, 1854 ; Isaac, Jan. 27, 1858. Our subject always lived at his native place, the farm which his father and family cleared up, with the exception of 15 acres ; they have now a very desirable farm of 160 acres, of which about 106 acres are in a good state of cultivation. David G. followed teaching in public schools for ten winters ; is one of the original proprietors of an agricultural store in Bradford, owning a half-interest in the same, which he runs in connection with the home farm, of which he has entire charge. His marriage with Allie Babylon was celebrated Dec. 23, 1875 ; she was born in Miami Co. Jan. 7, 1851, and is the mother of two children—Sherman Byron, born Sept. 15, 1876 ; Chloe Bell, Jan. 2, 1880.





**GERMAN TOWNSHIP.**

**LOYD BROWN**, farmer ; P. O. German. The subject of this sketch is one of the prominent farmers of German Township ; was born in Baltimore Co., Md., in 1807 ; he is the son of Nicholas Brown, who was also a native of Maryland. Our subject was raised on a farm, and early acquired the art of farming which he has successfully practiced all his life. His minority was spent at home assisting in the duties of the farm, after which time he set out on his own responsibilities. For a time, he farmed the homestead on shares. He was united in marriage, in Maryland, to Miss Rachel Miller, who was also born in Baltimore Co. They emigrated to Ohio soon after their marriage and located first in Harrison Township ; after remaining here about three years, he came to the place where he now resides and where he has ever since lived. By dint of hard labor and habits of industry and economy, he has put himself in the possession of several fine, well-improved farms. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are the parents of eight children, all of whom grew up to mature years ; since then, death has visited four of them. The others are located on farms near the homestead.

**G. M. CALDERWOOD**, physician ; P. O. German ; the subject of this memoir was born in Butler Township, in September, 1849 ; he is the son of J. R. and Jamima (Otwell) Calderwood ; his father was born in Montgomery County, Nov. 6, 1821, and came to this county when quite young ; he is one of the prominent citizens of the county, and a millwright and carpenter by occupation ; his wife is a native of North Carolina, born near Goldsboro the 13th of April, 1825. Our subject was raised on a farm, assisting in its duties during the summer, and devoting his winter months to the acquisition of knowledge in the common schools, till he was 18 years of age, at which time he entered the union school at Greenville ; at this latter place he spent one year, and subsequently entered the profession of teaching ; this he followed successfully for a few years, employing his leisure time in reading medicine, which he continued till the winter of 1872, when he attended lectures at the Miami Medical College, Cincinnati. He first began practice in Adams County, Ind. ; at the end of about six months he located in Bradford, Ohio, where he remained in practice about eighteen months ; his health being much impaired at the end of this time, he retired from active work for a period of six months. April 12, 1875, he formed a partnership with Dr. Jobes, of Palestine, which continued about seven months, when Dr. Jobes was elected to the office of Probate Judge of this county ; after the partnership was dissolved, he continued the practice here in his own name ; he has, by careful attention to his professional duties, built up a large and increasing practice, and is one of the promising young physicians of the county. He was united in marriage Aug. 5, 1872, with Miss Isabella Reed, at the residence of Rev. McConnell, of Greenville ; she is a native of Versailles, Darke County, where her father has been engaged in the dry goods and grain business for about half a century. Mr. and Mrs. Calderwood are the parents of three children—Rhoda, Jimie (who died when eight months old), and Carl.

**GORDEN CLOYD**, farmer ; P. O. German. The subject of this memoir is a native of this county, born in German Township in 1822 ; he is the son of the pioneer James Cloyd, who was perhaps the first permanent settler in the township. He was born in Virginia in 1780 ; when but a mere lad he emigrated to Ohio, at the breaking-out of the war of 1812, and he gave his services in the defense of his country ; he was stationed a portion of the time at Fort Greenville. He was at this latter place when the children of William Wilson were murdered within sight of the block-house, and was one who assisted in their burial. At the close of the war, he remained in the county, and married Miss Elizabeth Norfisinger, the





daughter of Andrew Norfsinger, one of the first settlers in the county, who came to the county previous to the war of 1812, and erected a block-house in Neave Township, and remained there during the war. He was a "man of the chase," and delighted in hunting. James Cloyd was a member of the first grand jury that ever met in the county; after his marriage, he first settled on the prairie southeast of the present town of Palestine; from there he located on land now owned by David Wilcox; he remained here about sixteen years, in which time he prepared much of the farm for agricultural uses, which was all in the woods when he entered it; he then disposed of this farm with the intention of emigrating to Illinois, but after visiting this latter place he returned satisfied to spend the remnant of his days in German Township; he then entered a quarter section just west of Palestine, on which he erected a house and passed the remainder of his life. He died May 26, 1872, at the ripe old age of 81 years 10 months and 11 days; thus passed away a pioneer and a soldier, lamented by all who knew him; he had a sympathetic heart and a charitable spirit, and many a needy neighbor was made glad by his charities. His wife survived him only a few years, her death occurring June 17, 1875, at the age of 76 years 3 months and 6 days. They were the parents of seven children, four sons and three daughters, four of whom are still living. Our subject's early life was devoted to such labor as the frontiersman was accustomed to do; he availed himself of what educational opportunities then offered, often going a distance of two miles through swamp and thickets to school. At the age of 20, he went to Preble County and engaged as a laborer on a farm; he remained here five years, and then located on the place where he now resides. He was married in 1846 to Miss Julia A. Woodmansee, a native of Butler County; her father was an early settler and prominent citizen of the township, having frequently had the offices of Trustee and Justice of the Peace conferred upon him. Mr. and Mrs. Cloyd are the parents of four children—Edward, Elmira, Flora B. and Sampson. They are members of the M. E. Church, and are leading exemplary lives.

**JAMES N. EAKINS**, farmer; P. O. German. The subject of this memoir is a descendant of one of the early pioneer families of the Township. He was born in the township Aug. 15, 1855, and is the son of George Eakins, and grandson of the pioneer Benjamin Eakins. Benjamin Eakins came to this township immediately after the close of the war of 1812 and located on the land where our subject now resides. His first house still stands a monument of early days. He passed through with all of the privations and hardships incident to frontier life, sharing its trials and triumphs, and died at a ripe old age honored by all who knew him. Our subject was early left an orphan by the death of his parents, and was then taken and raised by his uncle, Wash Brown. He is now engaged in farming which has always been his occupation, and is one of the promising young men of the county. Dec. 31, 1876, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Thomas, who was born and raised in New Madison. She is also a descendant of early pioneers of Harrison Township. Mr. and Mrs. Eakins were the parents of two children, one of whom has been taken from them by the messenger of death.

**SOLOMON FRANK**, retired farmer; P. O. German, Ohio. This gentleman was born near Wheeling, W. Va., April 12, 1817, and is the son of Stephen Frank, a native of New York State; when quite small, he emigrated to Montgomery Co., Ohio, with his parents; his father deceased when he was a small boy, thus leaving him without the comforts or benign influences of a parental home; this misfortune early threw him upon his own resources; he engaged at the occupation of farming, hiring out, until he was 18; at this age, he began the coopering business, which occupation he followed for upward of twenty years. In 1840, he came to this township and located in the town of Palestine, where he pursued his usual vocation. He has been married twice; his marriage with Miss Acca Parent was celebrated Dec. 15, 1842; her parents were early settlers of this township, and their biographies occur under the sketch of I. D. Parent. Mr. Frank and family,





together with a large circle of acquaintances, were called upon to mourn the death, which occurred March 29, 1861; she was for many years identified with the cause of religion, being first a member of the M. E. Church, and, at her death, of the U. B. Church; her life was an exemplary one, and her death a loss which the church and community both felt. Mr. Frank was united in marriage the second time, Feb. 16, 1862, with Mrs. Sarah A. (Crisler) Leas; she is a native of Preble Co., Ohio. Six children were born to the first union, one of whom deceased when quite small; the rest are all living; one child was the fruit of the second union, which died in infancy. Mr. Frank has devoted his latter years to farming and superintending his farm. Mr. and Mrs. F. are both active members of the U. B. Church of Pleasant Grove, and are leading exemplary lives.

REUBEN GOENS, farmer; P. O. German; was born in South Carolina, Sept. 1, 1830, and is one of the early settlers of this section of the country; his father, Henry G., was born in North Carolina and emigrated to Ohio with his family in 1833, locating in German Township, near Palestine; he is the father of nine children, and has been married three times; he is still living, at the age of 72 years, hale and hearty. Our subject lived with his parents till he was 8 or 10 years of age, when he went to live with Benj. Stanton, a Quaker, of Newport, Indiana, now known as Fountain City; with this man and in this vicinity he spent his boyhood days. While here he became an enthusiastic co-worker with the Friends, who were as a class severely opposed to the system of slavery—in assisting fugitive slaves to escape into Canada; he entered heartily and earnestly into the work, while yet a boy, and many slaves owed their freedom to his assistance. The Friends had formed a secret society, the object of which was to aid the fugitives to escape. They established a "Court of Inquiry" to avoid being deceived by impostors, their purpose being to assist only those who were fleeing from bondage. In this court, our subject often sat and listened to the sad tales of the fugitives; he formed an intense hatred against the "cursed institution of slavery," and determined to render, with any and all sacrifices, whatever assistance he could to the "runaways." As they would find their way to Newport, he would drive them over to what was known as the "Greenville Settlement," making the trip after night to avoid detection; from this latter place, they were helped into Canada. After he had grown up to majority, he had a strong desire to visit Canada, and see how those whom he had aided in their "flight for freedom" were prospering under their new surroundings. To this place he found his way, and here met many whom he had helped in their escape. He remained here for a year or more and then returned home. In the mean time, he was engaged on the lakes as a laborer on a boat, and also on the Canada Southern R. R. At this time, there were no educational opportunities provided the colored race in Indiana. Recognizing the necessity of educating the slaves who found their way here, the Friends, assisted by other charitable persons, erected a Manual Labor Institute in Randolph Co., Ind., just across the line from the Greenville settlement. Into this enterprise our subject entered with enthusiasm and assisted in clearing the ground and erecting the building, and has since rendered what aid he could to the institution. Prof. Tucker was employed as teacher for about twenty years, during which time the school prospered greatly, and the good which has flowed from it to the colored race can never be estimated. Those have been educated here who have since occupied seats in Congress, and hundreds are scattered over the South and elsewhere today, giving to others the knowledge which they acquired at this institution. Mr. Goens is now filling the position of Trustee for this university, which is still accomplishing much good. Mr. G. has been married twice; his first marriage was with Miss Mary Clemens, who deceased in 1852; she was the granddaughter of James Clemens, the first settler in this part of the county; his second marriage was consummated with Miss Emily A. Smith, also a granddaughter of James Clemens; Mr. G. has since been chiefly engaged in farming, though he has dealt to some extent in stock. In 1864, he gave his services for the defense of his country.





being placed in the 45th Penn. V. I. ; they were located at Washington City near Gen. Lee's farm till April 15, 1865, when they were ordered to the front ; he participated in the battles around Petersburg and Richmond, and was present at Lee's surrender ; they were then sent into Texas, where they remained till they were honorably discharged, the last of September, 1865, at Brownsville, Tex. ; he then returned home by way of the Gulf and Mississippi River to Cairo, Ill., and from there by railroad. Mr. and Mrs. Goens are the parents of five children, two of whom are dead ; the living are Robert C., Rufus W. C. and Russell V. Mr. G. may be regarded as one of the self-made men of this township : beginning with no capital, he has struggled up with the assistance of his wife against misfortune and adversity to take a place among the thrifty and enterprising farmers of the township.

H. L. HILL, retired farmer ; P. O. German. Mr. Hill is one of the few remaining pioneers of this county ; he was born in York District, South Carolina, the 1st of February, 1815 : is of Irish descent ; he is the son of William E. Hill, whose father, William Hill, came from Ireland. William E. was born in Frankstown, Washington Co., Md., April 9, 1772 : though of Irish birth, the first language he lisped was German, that being the prevailing language of his native town ; his parents moved to South Carolina when he was quite a small lad ; his father was one of the patriots during the great struggle for American freedom, and took an active part in it ; near the close of the war, when the British and Tories held possession of South Carolina, and were visiting the patriots with merciless severity and cruelty, murdering hundreds in cold blood, they called at the house of Mr. Hill, thinking to find and dispatch him as they had many other brave men, but Mr. Hill was at his post of duty repelling the bloodthirsty murderers, and they failed to find him ; not being able to ascertain his whereabouts from Mrs. Hill, equally patriotic, and his daughter, they attempted to extort the desired information from William E., then a lad of about nine summers, by hanging him ; this they did several times, punishing him most severely, but to no avail : thus failing in their purpose, they proceeded to plunder the house, taking out the feather beds and scattering the feathers to the winds. William E. Hill's boyhood was spent upon a farm, but quite early in life he turned his attention to the carpenter's trade, to the construction of cotton gins and cotton screws chiefly ; being raised in a Slave State, his early training was such as to lead him to look favorably on this system of servitude, but his nature never could endure to see the slaves cruelly used : at one period in his life, he was called near Charleston to erect a cotton gin for Rambert, one of the largest slaveholders in the country ; every evening those slaves who failed to perform the daily task imposed upon them by their cruel master, were taken to the whipping-post and unmercifully whipped : their agonies from this could be heard all night through, and Mr. Hill gave it as one of the most painful periods of his life, although he was allowed the comforts and luxuries of the splendid Rambert mansion. In order to obtain a place among the higher class of society, Mr. Hill was obliged to purchase some slaves and become a slaveholder ; this purchase proved a financial disaster to him, which misfortune led him to seek a more congenial clime, and in the fall of 1817 he emigrated to Ohio, locating on a school section about three miles west of the present town of New Madison. Here he purchased a lease for \$1, with about seven acres cleared on it ; here, on this piece of land, he and his devoted wife spent the remnant of their days, and now their bodies lie interred on the same soil. He combined with farming the occupation of cooper and loom manufacturer, and his looms are yet to be found over this county, relics of pioneer life. Although not much given to the "chase," he had one which ended in a remarkable fruition. In company with two of his neighbors, John Downing and Thomas Mécum, one winter morning, when the ground was covered to an unusual depth with snow, over which a strong crust had formed, he spied seven deer, and gave chase with dogs ; the snow so impeded the progress of the deer that they all soon fell victims to the eager dogs. Mr. Hill was married to Miss Sarah Farris in South Carolina, who was born in County Antrim, Ireland,





on the 8th day of March, 1780; she emigrated to America when only 12 years old, with her parents, settling on Fishing Creek, York District, South Carolina. Twelve children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hill, and all grew up to years of maturity but three, who died in their infancy. Mr. Hill deceased in April, 1848, his wife surviving him till June, 1855, when her death occurred. Thus we record the death of two more of the early pioneers of this county. During their lives, they were successively members of three religious denominations, viz., Presbyterian, United Brethren and Universalist. Our subject was only 2 years old when he came to this county; his early life was not much different from most of the pioneer boys; the log cabin constituted his home and the wilderness his surroundings; poverty was the most constant companion of his youth, and frequently has he been tucked under the bed while his only shirt was receiving a vigorous application of soap and water. The first teakettle used in the family was purchased for \$3, and his mother spun flax and tow, at 12½ cents per dozen cuts, to pay for it. The domestic wear of his sisters consisted of home-made goods, made of cotton filling and flax chain, the cotton being carded and spun by hand, these goods, colored in various hues, constituted their Sunday costume. The first calico dresses introduced into the neighborhood, by a family from Kentucky, were objects of no little interest to the community, and the family that had the audacity to make such a display of finery as this ran no little risk of being ordered to leave the county or don the home-made goods; it was looked upon as a dangerous custom, not to be allowed with impunity; this feeling, however, soon wore off, and the fair daughters of the forests were allowed to indulge in the luxuries of a calico dress; the first dress of this make introduced into the family of our subject was purchased of Shadwick & Co., of New Paris, at 25 cents per yard, and paid for in home-made goods at the same price; this served as a passport into the higher class of society. Financial circumstances did not improve materially till Mr. H. grew up to manhood and was able to perform considerable manual labor. At the age of 21, by agreement previously entered into, his father deeded to him 80 acres of land, one-half swamp and one-half timber; this was his first earthly possession. About this period, March 16, 1837, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Elizabeth Kunkle, who was born in 1815, in Bedford Co., Penn., and came to this county with her parents when only 3 years of age, locating in Harrison Township; her mother is still living, at the ripe old age of 86, in the possession in a remarkable degree of all her faculties. After the marriage of Mr. H., he moved to his land, then all in the wild state; hard work and perseverance were demanded of them both to meet the exigencies of their surroundings; these were heartily furnished, Mrs. H. performing her part at the spinning-wheel and loom, in addition to the usual domestic duties; after they had been struggling against poverty and its concomitants for some time, Mrs. Hill's mother bequeathed them \$250, the savings of her own small earnings, \$218 of which were in silver half-dollars; with this Mr. Hill started for Fort Wayne, Ind., on foot, a distance of ninety miles, to enter land, and succeeded in entering 148 acres in Allen County; at the end of seven teen years, he disposed of his first farm and purchased 160 acres in German Township, Sec. 27, where he has since lived; he subsequently added to this by the purchase of 268 acres; in 1870, his estimated worth was \$20,000, the accumulation of his own exertions, assisted by his wife. At this period of his prosperity a great financial calamity befell him, which was doubly severe because of the manner and source from which it came, it being security and forged notes to the amount of \$12,000; for him and his devoted companion to have the fruits of their lives' toil and sacrifices thus unlawfully snatched from them was a bereavement most keenly felt, and on his family it fell with equal weight. Mr. and Mrs. H. are the parents of nine children, six sons and three daughters, and are the grandparents of twenty-one children; one son, the youngest and oldest daughters, and five grandchildren have died. Mr. and Mrs. Hill are members of the Universalist Church at Palestine.

BALSER HORN, farmer; P. O. Hollandsburg. Mr. Horn was born in





Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, April 2, 1811; he attended school till he was 14, when he served an apprenticeship of two years at the cooper trade and one year at brewing; he then traveled till he was 20, at which time he was called in for service in the Hessian army; by contributing to a general fund which was kept for the purpose of hiring substitutes, the sum of 95 guilders—nearly \$40—he was released from further obligations to the army. On the 4th of April, 1832 he embarked on a sail vessel at Bremenhaven for America, and was landed at Baltimore, Md. on the 4th of June, being 60 days on the voyage; he soon found his way to Penn., where he engaged in teaming for a time; he came to Ohio Oct. 25, 1833, and located in Fairfield County, where he at once began coopering; he was married Oct. 23, 1836, to Miss Nancy Kanney, a native of Maryland. She came to this State in 1825, her parents preceding her about one year. Soon after the marriage of Mr. H. he began the occupation of farming, which he has ever since followed with eminent success; he disposed of the farm which he possessed in Fairfield County, and came to this county Aug. 30, 1849, locating in Sec. 30, on 123 acres which he purchased; since then by industry and economy he has added to this till now he has a farm of 273 acres; on this he has erected one of the finest brick residences in the Township, and has put the farm under the best modern improvements: he is one of the self-made men of this country. When he landed at Baltimore, he had in his pocket only 37 cents, all his earthly possessions. Though he landed with an empty purse, he was possessed of an indomitable energy and perseverance which served him well then and has ever since been his guiding genius. Mr. and Mrs. H. are the parents of nine children, of whom four have deceased; two sons and three daughters are still living; all have attained to majority. Two daughters have been united in marriage, one living at home, the other in Minnesota.

**SQUIRE JEFFERIS**, farmer; P. O. German. The subject of this memoir, Squire Jefferis, was born in German Township, Darke Co., Ohio, June 26, 1828; he is of English descent; he lived with his parents until he attained to his majority, assisting in the duties of the farm, which then consisted largely in removing the forests from the land, preparatory to farming; his winter months were devoted to the acquisition of knowledge in the common schools, which were then after the pioneer style; he attended his first school in the second schoolhouse erected in the township, which stood on Sec. 13; his first instructor was Milton Moore; by close attention to his books, he qualified himself for the profession of teaching, and taught his first school in 1850, in what was known as the "James Daily District," in German Township; the building in which he taught was only 16x18 feet, and his average daily attendance forty; he was recompensed for his arduous labor at the rate of \$15 per month, boarding himself; he followed teaching during the winter months for a period of ten years, and for five summers during this time engaged in the manufacture of brick, the balance of the summers were spent in farming. In 1858, he was married to Miss Margaret A. Brown, daughter of John and Mary Brown; after his marriage he moved to Washington Township, and engaged in farming; in the same spring, he was elected Constable of the township, to which office he was elected for four years in succession; he lived with his wife about six years, when they separated and broke up housekeeping; one child was born to this union, viz., Ida Jane. For several years subsequent to this, he had no permanent home. On the 9th of February, 1869, he was united in marriage to Martha M. Butler, of Randolph Co., Ind.; she is the daughter of James and Elizabeth E. Butler; the same spring of his marriage, he moved to German Township, locating on Sec. 3, where he has since lived; three children are the fruits of this union, a son and two daughters. The chief occupation of our subject has been farming, though he has dealt to some extent in stock for the last fifteen or twenty years; in 1872, he was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace, and served a term of three years, discharging the duties thereof, with commendable zeal and satisfaction to his constituency; he is the son of Darlington L. and Mary Jefferis. Darlington L. was born in Virginia, Oct. 25, 1796; in





1798. his father moved to Fayette Co., Penn., where they lived until 1806; at that time they emigrated to Ohio and located in Butler Co.; at the end of two years they moved to Clinton Co.; in 1820, Darlington L. left the parental roof, to try his fortunes in the wilds of Darke Co.; he first made his home with Peter Kimball, in Washington Township, and the same year entered 160 acres of land in German Township. His marriage with Miss Mary Potter was celebrated the following year, 1821; she was the daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Drew) Potter, natives of New Jersey, and early pioneers of this State, coming here in 1816. Shortly after the marriage of Mr. Jefferis, he erected a log cabin on his land, into which he moved and began life in earnest; by his indomitable energy and persevering industry, being ably assisted by his noble wife, he soon made the wilderness "blossom as the rose;" by good management he added to his farm, until he subsequently had in his possession over 500 acres of fertile land, under excellent improvement; he is still living on the farm he entered sixty years ago. There were born to Darlington L. and Mary Jefferis, ten children, viz.: Rebecca, deceased in infancy; Julian, deceased at the age of 13; Job D., married to Caroline Colby Squire, subject of this sketch; John, deceased at age of 3 years; Milton M., married to Louisa Chenoweth; Mary A., married to Samuel F. Armstrong, Joshua, married to Sarah J. Ware; William H. H. died at the age of 22, at Nashville, Tenn., while in the service of his country in the late rebellion; his remains were brought home and buried beside his friends gone before; Elizabeth, married to William H. Mills. Darlington L. Jefferis is a son of Job and Rebecca (Long) Jefferis; Job J. was born in Chester Co., Penn., June 9, 1776, and married Rebecca, daughter of Owen and Lydia Long, Dec. 10, 1794; she deceased four years after their marriage, leaving a son, Darlington L., the father of our subject; his second marriage was consummated with Rebecca Vail, whose death occurred shortly after; a daughter was born to this union, Catherine, who subsequently married Ivan Ward, and moved to Jay Co., Ind. Mr. Jefferis married Elizabeth Nichalson for his third wife, who died Oct. 19, 1856; three children were born to this union—Job E., Joab and Hannah. Mr. Jefferis was a farmer by occupation and emigrated to Clinton Co., Ohio, in 1808, where he lived until his death, which occurred Jan. 1, 1846; he was the son of William and Hannah (Darlington) Jefferis. William J. was born in Chester Co., Penn., May 12, 1729, and united in marriage in 1752, to Hannah Darlington, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Darlington. Abraham Darlington was born in Darnhall, Cheshire, England, and emigrated to America when a young man. William and Hannah J. resided in Bradford, Chester Co., Penn., until their death; they were the parents of twelve children, viz.: Jane, born Oct. 20, 1752, married to Frederick Wolf; Elizabeth, born April 15, 1754, married John Hickman; Rachel, born Aug. 14, 1755, married to Griffin Roberts; Hannah, born April 7, 1757, married to David Harris; Rebecca, born Aug. 18, 1759; William, born Sept. 5, 1761, married to Ann Woodward and Martha Mendenhall; Abraham, born Feb. 22, 1763, married Martha Way and Ann Carter; Agnes, born Sept. 2, 1764; Job, born June 9, 1766, married Rebecca Long and others; Lydia, born May 17, 1768, married Jacob Aughee; Mary, born Dec. 10, 1770; Martha, born Feb. 17, 1773. William Jefferis was a son of William Jefferis, Sr., and Elizabeth Jefferis. William Jefferis, Sr., was born in Delaware Co., Penn., about the year 1700, and was married in 1724 to Elizabeth, widow of John Nield, and daughter of Nathaniel and Elizabeth Bing; after residing for several years in Delaware Co., they moved to Chester Co., where they lived until their death; they were the parents of the following children: Mary, born July 29, 1727, married William Marsh; William, born May 12, 1729, married Hannah Darlington; Martha, born March 8, 1731, married William Bennett; Nathaniel, born Jan. 8, 1733, married twice, persons unknown; Hannah, married John Hunt, Samuel, born Dec. 6, 1736, married Margaret Townsend; Nathan, born July 6, 1741, married Penninah Strode. William Jefferis, Sr., was a son of Robert and Jane (Chandler) Jefferis. Robert Jefferis was born about the year 1670, and emi-





grated to Chester Co., Penn., as early as 1685 ; it is supposed that he was born in England ; he was married in 1693 to Jane, daughter of George and Jane Chandler, who came from Wiltshire, England, in the year 1689. They were the parents of the following children : Patience, married to Henry Betterton ; Charity, married to John Evans and John Cope ; William, married in 1724 Elizabeth Neild ; James, married in 1827 Elizabeth Carter ; Robert, married to Eleanor —, and Elizabeth ; George, married to Lydia — ; Jane, married to Joseph Skeen ; Anne, married to Alexander Duncan ; Mary, married to Thomas Temple. Robert Jefferis was married the second time, and there were born to this union, Benjamin, Thomas, John, and Richard.

M. M. JEFFERIS, farmer ; P. O. German. The subject of this memoir is a native of this township ; born within one-fourth mile of where he now resides Jan. 8, 1833 ; he is the son of D. L. Jefferis, whose sketch appears in the memoir of Squire J. ; he was brought up to farm labor and remained at home till his marriage, which he celebrated with Miss Louisa Chenoweth, April 6, 1855 ; the marriage ceremony was solemnized by A. Hiller, J. P. ; Mrs. J. is the daughter of Thos. F. Chenoweth, whose sketch appears in those of Washington Township ; after his marriage, he located where he now lives ; he has a well-improved farm of 160 acres, under a good state of cultivation ; he has erected on it the finest two-story brick residence in the township, and has with it all the conveniences which could be desired ; he is no office-seeker, but has been elected to the office of Township Trustee. Mr. and Mrs. J. are the parents of twelve children—Franklin W., born Jan. 18, 1856, deceased July 31, 1863 ; Orlinda, Jr., April 6, 1857, deceased Aug. 4, 1858 ; Victoria L., Jan. 7, 1859, recently married ; Laura Ellen, March 12, 1861, recently married ; Mary J., Sept. 9, 1863 ; Lorinda A., May 21, 1865, deceased Sept. 21, 1871 ; Chas. T., Aug. 8, 1868 ; Emma C. E., Jan. 6, 1871 ; Flora May, Oct. 2, 1872 ; Elmer D., June 24, 1874 ; Edward F., Nov. 18, 1876 ; Homer L., March 21, 1879. Mr. and Mrs. J. have their connection with the Universalist Church at Palestine.

JOSHUA JEFFERIS, farmer ; P. O. German. Joshua was born in the house where he now resides, October 15, 1837 ; he is the son of D. L. Jefferis whose sketch appears in another place ; our subject was reared a farmer boy, assisting in the duties of the farm during the summer and attending the common schools during the winter months ; he has always lived on the homestead place, which he began cultivating on shares in 1863, since which time he has been farming on his own account. He was united in marriage with Miss S. J. Ware, January 10, 1867 ; she is the daughter of Jacob Ware, whose sketch appears in another part of this work ; she was born in the township June 20, 1849 ; Mr. Jefferis is identified with the Republican party, to the principles of which he is a zealous advocate ; Mr. and Mrs. Jefferis are members of the Universalist Church at Palestine, and are living consistent lives. They are the parents of three children, viz., William Ellsworth Grant, born March 24, 1868 ; Marvin Raymond, November 5, 1877 ; Lona Alma, May 13, 1879.

SAMUEL KERST (deceased). Mr. Kerst was one of the most prominent farmers of this township ; he was born in Berks Co., Penn., November 24, 1811, and was of German descent ; he was the son of Samuel and Elizabeth Kerst, both natives of Pennsylvania ; when quite a small boy, he suffered the loss of his parents by death, he then went to live with his uncle at Reading, Penn. ; while here, he enjoyed the advantages of the schools of the place ; he was raised principally upon a farm, and early became acquainted with the art of farming, which he followed with signal success the remainder of his life. In 1837, December 26, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Ann M. Moyer, the marriage ceremony being solemnized by Rev. William Pauli ; Mrs. Kerst was born in Pennsylvania, and is the daughter of Henry and Sarah S. Moyer, both natives of Pennsylvania. Immediately after the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Kerst, they emigrated to Ohio, halting for a short time on a farm in Montgomery Co., near





Germantown; in March, 1838, they resumed their westward journey till reaching German Township, where they located on Sec. 13; here Mr. Kerst purchased the farm consisting of 166 acres, on which Mrs. Kerst now resides, and where he passed the remnant of his days in agricultural pursuits; he died honored by all who knew him, March 23, 1872, leaving a large circle of friends, an affectionate wife and loving children to mourn his departure and revere his memory. Mr. Kerst was a faithful member of the German Reformed Church for many years before his death, and died in the triumphs of his faith; in his death, the community lost a useful citizen, the church an exemplary member, and the family an affectionate husband and loving father. Mr. and Mrs. Kerst were the parents of seven children—two sons and five daughters, all of whom are living (1880); their names are as follows: Morgan V., Sarah Ann, Ackie E., Angeline, Evan M., Candia C. and Hattie M.

GEORGE KESTER, farmer and wagon-maker. P. O. German. The subject of this memoir was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, near Germantown, in 1809; he is of German descent and is the son of George Kester, Sr., who was born in Pennsylvania in 1777, and emigrated to Ohio in the beginning of the present century. The older Kester remembered having seen George Washington at his father's private inn, in Pennsylvania. He celebrated his marriage with Miss Julia Ann Wolfe, a relative of the famous soldier, General James Wolfe. When he came to Ohio, he settled in Montgomery Co., near Dayton. The westward march of civilization had then just reached Montgomery Co., and he constituted one of its early settlers; he served as a soldier in the war of 1812 for a period of six months, and was at Ft. Greenville when the Wilson children were murdered by the Indians; he in company with one or two others gave the murderers chase; a favorite dog of Mr. Kester, previously trained, leading them on their track; he would most probably soon have overtaken the villains and brought them to justice, but for the fear of the Captain of the garrison who ordered them back to the fort. In February, 1837 he came to this county and settled in German Township, on the southwest quarter of Sec. 14, on a part of which a portion of Palestine has since been built; in March, 1838, he met with a severe and what afterward, through the negligence or rather ignorance of the attending physician, proved a fatal accident; he was a great lover of the chase, and, while out on a fox hunt with several more, he received a kick from the horse of David Ketrings, which completely shattered the lower bone of his leg; from the effects of this he died in the following May; his wife died, when our subject was about 8 years old, with a rose cancer on her face; she was a woman of more than ordinary intelligence in her day, having received a fine German education. Mr. and Mrs. Kester were the parents of fourteen children. Our subject's early life did not differ much from that of many other boys in the early period of the settlement of this county; he remained at home till 16 years of age, devoting his time with his father on the farm; at this age, he worked three months on the Miami Canal, which was then in the process of construction, and the completion of which was looked to with great anxiety, some believing that it would prove an invaluable blessing to the country, and many others that it would prove equally as great an injury; he was then apprenticed to the wagon-maker's trade, and served a term of two and a half years; he then pursued this occupation for several years as a journeyman, setting up on his own responsibility, first at Sunbury, in 1833. May 10th, 1835, he was united in marriage with Miss Eve Frank, and on the 20th of the same month he, accompanied by his wife, started to this county to improve a piece of land which he had previously entered; the journey was made by team and required two days; he began at once to erect a log house, but before completing it the privations necessarily connected with it proved too severe, and he was prostrated with sickness; after he recovered, he returned to Montgomery Co. with his team, after some household goods which he could not bring on the first trip; while here, he was again prostrated with sickness, and thus becoming somewhat discouraged with his new home in Darke County, he was easily persuaded by his friends to remain in his native place and





resume his former occupation ; this he did till April, 1838, when he again moved to German Township, locating on the east half of his father's farm, which he subsequently purchased for \$2,000, the amount paid for the whole quarter a few years previous by his father ; at his father's death he administered on the estate, and then made the purchase above referred to ; he remained on the farm till about nine years ago, superintending it and at the same time carrying on his shop in Palestine ; he formerly dealt largely in fine blooded horses, his opinion being regarded as that of an expert on such horses : about nine years ago he moved to Palestine, where he still resides. Mr. and Mrs. Kester are the parents of six children, three of whom are deceased : Mrs. Kester died in 1855, lamented by all who knew her ; Mr. Kester gave his second daughter a collegiate education, at Oxford, Ohio ; she subsequently engaged in teaching, and was united in marriage to Capt. Moore, of Greenville. Mr. Kester consummated his second marriage with Viola Mikesell ; two children, a son and daughter, have been born to this union : the son is married and had two children, one of whom has deceased ; he is much given to instrumental music, and is at present (1880) a member of the "Palestine Brass Band."

DAVID KETRING, retired farmer ; P. O. German : another of the early pioneers of the county, coming to German Township, with his parents, in 1818 ; he was born in Fairfield Co., Ohio, in 1808 : he is of German descent, his father being a native of Germany and his mother of Pennsylvania ; his parents settled on land about one mile south of the present site of Palestine, in 1818 ; they then constituted one among the first families of the township. Our subject was brought up to pioneer life, and was early inured to its hardships : he assisted his father on the farm till his death, which occurred in 1829 : he then took charge of the homestead and rendered support to his mother till her death, which occurred in 1845 : he then inherited the home place, which he continued to farm till 1865, when he disposed of it and went to Randolph Co., Ind. : at the end of eleven years, he returned to the place where he now resides : he celebrated his marriage with Miss Martha Brant June 3, 1830 ; she is a native of Preble Co., Ohio, and came to this county when only 6 months old, making her home with Jonathan Pearson, one of the first settlers in the township. Mr. Ketring has witnessed the changes wrought in this section of the county by the unflagging industry of man for upward of sixty years. He has seen the wilderness "blossom as the rose" and bring forth a hundred-fold. Mr. and Mrs. K. are the parents of nine children, seven of whom are living, viz., Elizabeth, Joseph, Mary, Ellen and Jonathan (twins, now deceased), Malinda, Phebe Jane, Benjamin F., Clarissa, Martha. ; they have all attained to majority and are all married but two.

MICHAEL LINDAMOOD, farmer : P. O. Weaver's Station. The subject of this memoir was born in Germantown, Montgomery County, Ohio, in 1806 ; he was the son of Jonathan Lindamood, who was a native of Pennsylvania ; he emigrated to Ohio in the beginning of the present century and located in Montgomery County. Our subject was reared a tiller of the soil, and, besides assisting in the duties of the farm, he gave some attention to the carpenter business. In 1828, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Sherick, in Montgomery County ; she was born in Perry County, in 1808, and at the age of 18 she accompanied a family to Montgomery County, with whom she made her home till her marriage, returning once in the mean time to her native place on a visit. Mr. Lindamood engaged in farming for a few years after marriage, in Montgomery County, and then moved to this county, locating on the southeast quarter of Section 24, German Township ; the difficulties incident to frontier life at once confronted him : his farm was, with the exception of a few acres, yet clothed in the habiliments of nature, and unflagging perseverance was demanded to prepare it for the plow and cultivator ; by dint of hard labor this was soon accomplished, and a fine farm was the reward. On Sept. 5, 1869, death's messenger summoned Mr. Lindamood to "that undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveler returns ;" he departed in peace, his life's work





being done, leaving many friends, an affectionate wife and loving children to mourn his departure and revere his memory. Mr. and Mrs. Lindamood were the parents of children, one dying in infancy, the rest growing up to years of maturity : three of ten the daughters died after their marriage, leaving families of children : it will be seen that death has frequently broken into this family circle, taking away an affectionate father and husband and four children. Mr. Lindamood was a member of the Lutheran Church and lived an exemplary life.

G. T. LOWDENSLAGER, farmer ; P. O. Hollandsburg. This gentleman was born in Carroll Co., Md., Jan. 30, 1830 ; he is of German descent and is the son of Jacob L., also a native of Maryland ; he was a shoemaker by trade, and engaged in this occupation about forty years : he emigrated to Ohio with his family in 1837 and located in Harrison township : here he combined with his trade, farming. He was united in marriage about 1826, with Miss Brown, also a native of Maryland, and sister of Loyd Brown, whose sketch appears in the biographies of this township. Mrs. L.'s death occurred Aug. 30, 1866. Mr. L. is still living in Harrison Township at the ripe old age of 81 years. Our subject was brought up to farm life, and assisted his father in farming till he grew up to mature years. In 1856, Sept. 7, he celebrated his nuptials with Miss Margaret A. Vore, who was born in Harrison Township, May 3, 1838 ; her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, and emigrated to this State nearly half a century ago, locating in Harrison Township : her parents were both spared to see a ripe old age, her father's demise occurring Oct. 31, 1865, at the age of 76 years, and her mother's, Jan. 26, 1880, at the age of 83 years. Thus we record the death of two more of the early settlers of this county, who departed, leaving a large circle of acquaintances and a family of children to mourn their loss. Our subject farmed the homestead for several years after marriage, and then after spending about six years on two other farms, purchased the place where he now resides, which he has placed under good improvement by his habits of industry, assisted by his amiable wife. Mr. and Mrs. L. are the parents of twelve children, viz : Mary Emma, born July 7, 1857, married Jan. 14, 1877, to William F. Wolf ; Thomas P., born Sept. 11, 1858 ; Jesse S., born June 8, 1860 ; Margaret C. C., born Oct. 17, 1861 ; John L., born Feb. 28, 1864 ; Andrew C., born Aug. 6, 1865 ; Elva E., born July 20, 1867 ; Ina B., born Feb. 4, 1869 ; Annah M., born April 15, 1870 ; Florence M., born Dec. 19, 1871, deceased, Sept. 2, 1872 ; Rosa E., born Nov. 7, 1873 ; Jacob E., born Sept. 30, 1875.

JAMES McCABE, lumber manufacturer, P. O. German. The subject of this sketch was born in Warren Co., Ohio, the 14th day of October, 1826 ; his father, John was born in New Jersey Aug. 30, 1798, and is yet living in Neave Township, with all his faculties well preserved ; he emigrated to Ohio, when he attained to his majority, in September, 1818, making the journey almost entirely by foot ; he was accompanied to Wheeling, Va., by two young men of the names of Nutt and Helm ; here Nutt retraced his steps to New Jersey, after replenishing his exhausted purse out of McCabe's ; from Wheeling to Marietta, McCabe and Helm journeyed by skiff on the Ohio River ; becoming wearied of this mode of travel, they disposed of their skiff, and footed it to Chillicothe ; here the two companions, bound together by the trials and triumphs of their journey, made a final separation ; McC. pushed his journey on to Franklin Co., where he engaged a year or two at the carpenter trade, which he had previously learned ; his marriage with Miss Ann Vantilburgh was celebrated June 17, 1824 ; she was born in Middlesex Co., N. J., Oct. 6, 1793, and emigrated to this State with her parents when quite small, locating in Warren Co. Our subject then established himself in Warren Co. and engaged at his trade till he came to this county in 1842, the 13th day of November ; he purchased a farm in Neave Township, and abandoned his trade and turned his attention to farming ; he has continued to manage his farm up to the present time. Mrs. McC. deceased and was buried at Carlyle Station, Warren Co. Five children were born to this union as follows : Sarah, born May 27, 1825, deceased ; James, Oct. 14, 1826 ; John V., Jan. 23, 1828, deceased July 16, 1855.



William, born Jan. 29, 1829, deceased Oct. 14, 1851; Edith A., Feb. 28, 1830, deceased. Mr. McCabe's second marriage was consummated with Miss Nancy Woodward, in Warren Co.; she was born in that county the 14th day of May, 1808, and deceased Jan. 21, 1855. Nine children were the fruits of this union, to wit: George, Samuel, Ellen, Oscar and Malvina (twins), Elizabeth, Reuben, Wilson and Nancy; the above are all married but three. Mr. McC. was united the third time in marriage with Mrs. Charlotte Heistand, a native of Pennsylvania. Our subject was brought up on a farm; during the winter months, he applied himself assiduously to the acquisition of the rudiments of book knowledge; so well did he improve his time in this direction that he was early qualified to enter the profession of teaching; this he followed for eight years; he obtained his first certificate of John Briggs, one of the first school examiners of this county. He was married to Miss Wagoner Jan. 10, 1852; she was born in Neave Township Oct. 26, 1823. Her father, George Wagoner, was born Oct. 24, 1788, and came to Neave Township March 12, 1817; he was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was taken prisoner at Hull's surrender at Detroit: at the mention of this cowardly act of Hull to him, he would become enraged and stamp the ground, even up to his death, which occurred April 6, 1868; he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Stevens, who was born Oct. 12, 1796, and died Feb. 16, 1864; they were the parents of eleven children, seven of whom still survive; our subject, after his marriage located in Palestine, and for a time engaged in teaching and farming; he then purchased the Palestine Flouring-mill, to which he attached a saw-mill in about five years; he disposed of this property soon after this, and with Mr. Kester, purchased and erected in Palestine a large saw-mill, which he still runs, having some time ago purchased Kester's interest in it. Mr. and Mrs. McC. are the parents of four children, two sons and two daughters, to wit: Flora, born July 7, 1855, now deceased; Orlando, Sept. 6, 1857, now engaged in teaching; Virgil, November, 1858; Ida M., Feb. 7, 1864. Mr. and Mrs. McCabe are members of the Universalist Church of Palestine.

IRA McCLURE, miller: P. O. German. The subject of this memoir is a native of this county, born in Washington Township in 1845; he is the son of Geo. McClure, a native of Pennsylvania, who emigrated to this county in 1836 and located in Washington Township, near Nashville, a place then of considerable note; here he engaged in milling, which he continued eight or ten years; he then disposed of his mill property and purchased what was known as the John Clapp farm, near the same place, and engaged in farming; after controlling this for four years, he sold out and bought the Chenoweth farm, in the same township, joining the Indiana line, five miles south of Union City; here he continued till his death, which occurred in 1871; his wife survived him till 1879, when death's messenger summoned her to join him. Our subject was raised upon a farm, the summers of his early life being spent in his duties, and his winter months devoted to the acquisition of knowledge in the common schools; he remained at home till the year 1869, when he purchased the flouring-mill at Palestine, which he has since been successfully managing; he has in the mean time bought and sold grain to some extent; has never been a political aspirant, but in 1878 he was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace, the duties of which he still continues to discharge with commendable zeal and satisfaction to his constituents. He has been married twice; his first marriage he celebrated with Miss Sarah Skidmore, a native of this county, in 1869; one child, now deceased, was born; his second marriage was consummated in 1872, with Miss Rebecca Musselman, a native of this county; three children are the fruits of this second union—Benjamin F., Capitola, Henry Edmund. Mr. and Mrs. McClure are both consistent members of the Disciples Church of Palestine.

WILLIAM H. McCOUN, farmer: P. O. German; Mr. McCoun is the son of James McCoun, and was born in Rush County, Ind., Jan. 16, 1833; his father is a native of Virginia, and emigrated to Indiana with his parents in 1819; in September,





1852, he disposed of his property in Indiana, which consisted of 160 acres of land, and emigrated to Ohio, locating in the "settlement" in German Township; here he purchased 562 acres, and is still living at the ripe age of 82 years, looking as though his fourscore and two years had dealt gently with him. The early life of our subject was that of a farmer; his winter months were devoted to the acquisition of knowledge, and so well did he improve his time that he was early qualified for the profession of teaching; this occupation he followed chiefly for twenty years, with success. He is a zealous advocate of the principles of the Republican party, and is one who assisted in crushing out the late rebellion and with it forever the cursed institution of slavery; he was a member of the 45th Penn. C. T., and participated in the battles of Hatcher's Run, Petersburg, Richmond, etc., and was present at the surrender of General Lee; from thence they were sent into Texas, where he was honorably discharged with his regiment; from there he returned home, and has since been variously engaged in farming, teaching, brickmaking, contracting, etc. He is no political aspirant, but has been elected to the office of Justice of the Peace, and is now serving on his last year of a three-years' term; he has discharged the duties of his office with the same marked zeal and fidelity characteristic of his whole life; he also holds a trusteeship in the Union Literary Institution, and is fund commissioner of the same; he is a strong advocate of temperance, and both by precept and example opposes the evil of intemperance. His marriage with Miss Margaret Mason was celebrated Dec. 29, 1855; she was born in this county in 1835; nine children have been born to them, to wit: Laura B., deceased Oct. 8, 1879; her life, though short, was complete; she was a school-teacher by occupation, at which she had been engaged from the age of 14 up to her death; Alice A., now teaching at Seymour, Ind., a position Laura B. filled previous to her death; William B. C., Essie J., Sidney R., Augustus L. deceased in infancy; Julian Grant, Houston Colfax and Florence V. Mr. and Mrs. McCoun take a great interest in the cause of religion, both being identified with religious denominations, he with the Christian and she with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

GEORGE MILLER; farmer; P. O. German. Mr. Miller is another of the early settlers and prominent citizens of German Township; he is a native of Pennsylvania, born in York Co. in 1816; he descended from the Teutonic stock, and is the son of George Miller, Sr., who was also a native of Pennsylvania; Mr. Miller, Sr., was a farmer by occupation, and engaged to some extent in the manufacture of linseed oil. He united in marriage with Miss Petry, who is also a native of Pennsylvania; she is still living in the enjoyment of good health in Preble Co., at the ripe old age of 90 years. Mr. Miller, Sr., died in Pennsylvania, when our subject was only 9 years old; the subject of this memoir emigrated to Ohio when 16 years of age, and located first in Preble Co.; he was reared on a farm, and as this country was comparatively new when he came to it he was early inured to the hardships and privations of frontier life; he remained at home assisting in the duties of the farm till he grew up to mature years; his educational advantages were necessarily limited, as the life of the early settler is one of constant exertion for subsistence; however, what opportunities offered in this direction were well improved; in 1839, he moved to German Township and located on a piece of land owned by John Warner, land which he subsequently purchased and still owns; here he embarked on the "course of life" on his own account. He now has his third wife; his first marriage was consummated with Miss Warner in 1839; death bereft him of this companion in 1842; two children were born, both dying in infancy; he celebrated his second marriage with Miss Boomershine, in 1845; in 1858 he was called upon to mourn her loss; she died, leaving six children, one of whom has since died; he was married for the third time, to Miss Bolinger, in 1859; ten children were the fruits of the last union, nine of whom are still living. It will be noticed by the above that the messenger of death has made many and frequent visits to this father, taking from him two affectionate wives and four children. Mr. Miller is one of the self-made men of this county; beginning here





nearly half a century ago almost entirely in the woods, with scarcely nothing but a strong constitution, well-acquired habits of industry and economy, and an unyielding determination, he has struggled up through many difficulties to take a place among the foremost farmers of the county; he has added to his small beginning by untiring perseverance, till he now has a farm of 293 acres, well improved and under excellent cultivation; he has taken a great interest in the cause of religion, being a member of the German Baptist Church upward of twenty years.

I. D. PARENT, farmer; P. O. German. This gentleman was born March 1, 1830, on the place where he now resides: he is a descendant of one of the early pioneers of this county, Samuel Parent, Sr.; he was a native of New Jersey, and emigrated to Ohio in 1814 or 1815 and settled on a farm near Franklin, Butler Co.; at the end of three years, he came to this county and settled on the farm where our subject now lives, in Sec. 13; here he passed the remnant of his days; his family constituted one of the first in the township, and not an acre of his farm was reduced to the uses of civilization when he moved on it; the excellent turnpike which now crosses the farm was then only an Indian trail, and the "feeble sons of the bow and arrow" still lingered about; a pioneer life, with all the privations and hardships incident to it, was before him; but, nothing daunted, he launched out, and by his indomitable will and energy soon carved for himself and for future generations a beautiful home and farm out of the dense wilderness. He was united in marriage to Miss Hackey before coming to Ohio, and was the father of eleven children, two of whom died in infancy; nine grew up to mature years, and five are still living; the sketches of three of these appear in this work. The death of Mrs. Parent occurred in 1861, and that of Mr. P. one year later, in 1862. Our subject's life has been that of a farmer; he assisted his father on the farm till he was 22 years of age, at which time he was married to Miss Lucinda Friar; he immediately moved on an adjoining farm, where he remained three years, when he returned to the homestead, which he purchased, and took care of his parents till their death; one child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. P.—Leander H., born September, 1857. By the appearance of Mr. Parent's buildings and the condition of his farm, he would be and is counted one of the thrifty, enterprising farmers of German Township.

SAMUEL PARENT, farmer; P. O. German. Mr. Parent is another of the early settlers and prominent citizens of German Township; he was born Oct. 23, 1818, about one mile east of the present site of Palestine; he is the son of Samuel Parent, Sr., whose biography is given under I. D. Parent's sketch. Our subject was raised a farmer, which has been his life occupation; he remained under the parental roof till his majority; his early education, as concerned books, was about what the pioneer boys usually received. At the age of 21, he commenced life on his own account; he then moved on the farm, where he now resides, which he has placed under the best of modern improvements by his industry and good management. Mr. Parent was married to Miss Mary Coble in 1840; she was a descendant of early pioneers of this county, and a native of German Township. Mrs. Parent departed this life Aug. 20, 1879; she was a noble, Christian woman, an affectionate wife, a loving mother, and a useful citizen, and died lamented by all who knew her. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Parent, five of whom have been called to "that undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveler returns." Much mental anguish has fallen to the lot of Mr. Parent to endure; six different times has the messenger of death knocked at his door and claimed a victim, having robbed him of a loving wife and five children. Mr. Parent has a benevolent heart, as his many acts of charity and humanity bear testimony; he is an active member of the Christian (New Light) Church, and his life is an exemplary one.

COLONEL DAVID PUTMAN, attorney; P. O. German; we herewith present a sketch of Col. David Putman, whose portrait appears in this work, who is another of the early pioneers of this county; he was born Aug. 4, 1812, on the present site of



New Madison, within the stockade, which formerly constituted old Fort Black, he is of Scotch descent: his maternal grandfather—David Gray—emigrated to America in 1802 from Tyrone Co., Ireland, whither his immediate ancestors had been driven from Scotland by the Catholic persecution; he settled first in Sharpsharpsdown, Md., from which he emigrated in 1817 to Ohio, locating one mile west of the present place of New Madison, then known as Ft. Black; here he remained until his death, which occurred in 1822; he was one of the first settlers of the county, and had for his only neighbors a family of the Rushes, of whom some of the more remote descendants are still living in the same locality. Our subject is the son of Ernestus Putman, a direct descendant of John Putnam, who came over in the Mayflower. Here we mention the two different manners—interchanging the m and n—of spelling the name, a diversity which still continues in the family, and which most probably arose from the early association of the family with the Low Dutch. His paternal grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and took an active part for a period of seven years and eight months in that great struggle for freedom. Ernestus Putman was born in 1776, soon after his father entered the service; a brother of our subject's paternal grandfather was also a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and was sent south with Green's Division; after the close of the war, he located in South Carolina and raised a family; during our late civil war, our subject accidentally met a rebel prisoner at Camp Chase who was captured at Fort Donelson; and learning his rank—Captain—and name, upon inquiry he found him to be a grandson of his paternal grand-uncle; early in the present century, Ernestus Putman celebrated his first marriage, and in 1809 moved to Madison, Ind.; here he erected the third log cabin built in the place; while here, he was called to mourn the loss of his wife, who died leaving an infant son; this son now resides in Richmond, Ind.; Mr. E. Putman remained here till 1811, when he went to Harper's Ferry, and entered the Government employ as a gunsmith; he remained at this till the close of the war of 1812, and then went to Washington City. We should mention here, that, while at Harper's Ferry, he celebrated his second marriage; while at Washington, he was allotted the contract for the iron work of the Capitol and White House, which were then rebuilding; in 1819, he with his family, emigrated to this county, purchasing and settling on the land on which New Madison has since been built; it was then known as Fort Black; on coming to the above place, he brought with him a stock of goods and opened a store, combining with it the gunsmith trade, which was at that time a very lucrative business; in 1831, he laid out the present town of New Madison, and the same year constructed the first flouring mill in the southern part of the county, locating it near Weaver's Station, where the present mill, known as Otwell's, stands; in 1842, he retired from active business, having been for a number of years an eminently successful merchant; he still remained at his old home in New Madison, until a few years before his death, when he ceased housekeeping, and, with his wife, went to Winchester, Ind., where they spent the remnant of their days with their eldest daughter. He departed this life, in October, 1865, surviving his devoted wife nearly two years, she having died in February, 1864. Thus two more of the early pioneers passed peacefully away, their life's work ended, their duties done, leaving a family of loving children to mourn their departure, and revere their memory. Showing the interest which Mr. Putman took in Christianity, we mention that in 1847, he built on his own ground, and at his own expense—with the exception of \$80—the Presbyterian Church at New Madison; this church, after he left the place, became disorganized, and the house was no longer occupied by them. A few years ago, the heirs of Mr. Putman, after discovering that the original deed executed by their father in favor of the Presbyterian Church, was not to be found, and that the property was at their disposal, gratuitously turned it over to the German Reformed Church, giving it a quit-claim deed for the same. Mr. and Mrs. Putman were the parents of nine children, six of whom are still living, and all of whom grew up to mature years; their names are as follows: Jan





G., born in 1816, married to Edward Edger, and now residing in Winchester, Ind.; John G., born January, 1818, now living in Denison, Tex.; Elizabeth S., born October, 1819, married Dr. Rufus Gillpatrick, lately deceased; Col. D., our subject; Mary I., born 1824, married to Dr. Charles Jaqua; Ernestus J., born 1826, now of Colorado Springs, Colo.; Thomas C., born 1828, and deceased in his 21st year; James, born 1830, now residing in Burlington, Iowa; Nancy C., born 1833, married to Gen. J. G. Blunt, and now residing at Leavenworth, Kan.; Mr. P. was a member of the F. & A. M. Our subject, at a very early age, was sent to Eaton, Ohio, to school, being placed under the instruction of Col. George D. Hendricks, and remained there about six months, this being his first school outside his paternal roof; at the age of 13, he was placed in the flouring-mill lately built by his father, and there remained for a period of two years; then he was placed in his father's store in New Madison. The age of 13 closed his school days. He has a vivid recollection of going, with his father, when quite a small boy, about one mile east of New Madison, where, with the assistance of some of the neighbors, they erected a log schoolhouse, the house being completed in one day, with furniture thereto, the furniture being manufactured on the spot; thus was planted the germ of our present efficient and invaluable school system. Shortly after our subject left the mill, and while in the store, Col. Hendricks, his former instructor, called at his father's, and, while at the supper-table, remarked that he was then organizing a surveying party to go to Texas, just then recognized as an independent State, and jocosely asked Mrs. Putman if David could accompany him; to this she promised an answer next morning, which was rendered in the affirmative, and she at once set about to prepare him for his journey. Dr. Gillpatrick, who had lately located in New Madison, from Maine, undertook to instruct our subject in practical surveying prior to his setting out on the expedition. On Christmas Day, 1836, Col. Hendricks, with a party of nine, left Eaton, Ohio, for Texas, our subject being the youngest of the number; they performed almost the entire journey to Cincinnati, Ohio, on foot, accompanying the teams of Mr. Putman, the father of our subject, which were loaded with butter, lard and pork, and were about four days on the way; on the last day of the year, they embarked at Cincinnati, on the steamer George Washington, en route to New Orleans; on the next day, just before passing Louisville, they met the steamer on which Santa Anna was a passenger, on his way to Washington City; they were about two weeks on their way to New Orleans, their progress having been much impeded in the early part of the journey by floating ice. The Colonel relates an incident which occurred on the way down, as follows: Wishing to practice economy, their party took lower-deck passage, and among their number was one Parks, an excellent violinist and vocalist, who sang and played "Billy Barlow," much to the gratification of the passengers, who listened to it for the first time; this so attracted the passengers in the cabin that they made him up a purse of \$25, and, after putting somewhat of an aristocratic finish on him, invited him up to the cabin to amuse them with his songs and plays the balance of the trip. As young as our subject was, he was intrusted by his father with a quantity of lard, butter and pork, to take to New Orleans, to be disposed of to the best advantage; he made a satisfactory disposal of it to the firm of James Landis & Co., and left the proceeds thereof on deposit till his return. Here four of the company left them, the rest immediately embarking on the sail-vessel, William C. Byrant for Texas; the party then consisted of the following persons, to wit: Col. George G. Hendricks, Lot Lee (who afterward became Sheriff of Preble County, and distinguished himself in the Mexican war), John Fall, William Maroney and our subject. They sailed out of New Orleans on a rough sea which had just been severely disturbed by a violent storm; this was rather a severe initiation to sea-life for their party, as it soon produced the unpleasant sensation of seasickness; after a period of eight days, they landed at Marion, the river station of Columbia, the capital of the State; this was on the Brazos River; they there learned that the land office was





not open, and that there was no employment to be had in surveying; thus disappointed, they concluded to go into camp in the outskirts of Columbia. Col. Hendricks, not obtaining work as expected, pushed on to San Antonio, leaving the remaining part of the company in camp. At this time, there was a large influx of emigrants to the State, and a great demand for carpenters sprung up. This led Lee, who was a carpenter by profession, availed himself of, took contracts and employed Maroney and Fall to assist him; this proved very remunerative, as the demand for such labor was large and supply meager. Our subject performed the part of cook for the company, receiving for it his board and \$1 per day; in addition to this, he served as clerk in the grocery store of Capt. Ives, late of Texan War, for which he received \$2 per day; while here, he made the acquaintance of Samuel Houston, President of the Republic. After remaining here about three months, Fall, Maroney and our subject determined to return home, and concluded to foot it across the State to Red River; before the time for their departure arrived, Fall abandoned the pedestrian tour which they had planned, and took sail for New Orleans; this, however, did not defeat the resolution of the other two. On the 24th day of March, 1837, they called at the office of the Secretary of State, and obtained a passport, which is now before the writer, and which was given under the hand of J. Pinckney Henderson, Secretary of State, at the town of Columbia, the 24th day of March, 1837. After disposing of the surplus articles on hand, and packing their knapsacks, they sallied forth on their journey, on the morning of the 27th of March; on the evening of the first day, finding themselves on the bank of Cow Creek, unable to cross, they spread down their overcoats, and, using their knapsacks for pillows, lay down and slept soundly and undisturbed till morning. Early next day, they stopped at a farmhouse, which proved to be the home of Dr. Parrott, formerly of Ohio, who was much delighted to see the boys, and minister unto them in such a manner as to give a new impetus to their journey. After fourteen days' traveling, they arrived at Natchitoches, having crossed the famous Gaines' Ferry, on Sabine River, the land route into Texas; they took a steamer at Natchitoches, for New Orleans. Here our subject invested the proceeds of the goods previously stored there, in molasses, sugar and coffee for his father's store. This investment exhibited great business sagacity, as it proved to be a very profitable expenditure for his father. From here they took steamer direct to Cincinnati, from which place they transferred the goods, by canal, to Hamilton, Ohio, taking packet themselves for same place; next day, they walked to Eaton, Ohio, where our subject remained one day with his uncle and his companion Maroney; on the subsequent day he walked home, a distance of eighteen miles; thus ended the first eventful period of his life. We narrate thus fully this journey as being remarkable for one of such young years to venture. In about three months after arriving at home, he was employed as clerk in the dry-goods store of D. W. Skidmore, of Hamilton, Ohio; in the following spring his father and uncle established a new store in New Madison, and gave him charge of it as clerk; his uncle died in the fall of 1839, leaving the store entirely in his charge up to 1842; his father retired from active business in the spring of 1842, leaving him and his brother in charge of the two stores, which they consolidated and jointly managed. On the 15th of the following November, he celebrated his nuptials with Miss Sarah Mills, daughter of Col. Mark T. Mills, and grand-daughter of Col. James Mills; the latter gentleman was one of the early pioneers of this county, coming here in 1816 and settling on land two miles north of New Madison; he was a native of New Jersey, and emigrated to Hamilton, Butler Co., Ohio, in 1798, and was one of the first settlers in the county, and Colonel of the 1st Ohio Militia, 3d Detachment, in the war of 1812; he left Hamilton, Ohio, Feb. 5, 1815, in command of the 1st O. M., and marched to Dayton; from there to Piquette, Loramie, St. Mary's, and finally, April 7, was ordered to Ft. Meigs, where his regiment remained on guard duty till discharged from service. We find the following entry in his regimental book:



## GENERAL ORDERS.

"Col. Mills, with a portion of his command, having honorably served out the period for which they were called into the service of their country, are hereby discharged and permitted to return to their respective homes. Events not within the control of the present Commander-in-chief of this army, or of our Government, have rendered it necessary that the militia of Western States should compose a considerable portion of the Northwest army. Ohio stands conspicuous for the great zeal and promptness with which her citizens have yielded the comforts of private life for the toils and privations of the camp. In the return of this detachment of Ohio troops to their families and homes, it is due to Ohio and her sons to record their honorable service.

"To Col. Mills and his staff, and his respective commissioned and non-commissioned officers and privates, whose term of service has expired, and to whose promptness in the discharge of every duty he has been an eye-witness, the Commanding General gives his sincere thanks.

"By command of

GEN. GREENE CLAY."

Col. J. Mills served in both branches of the Ohio Legislature; he died of cholera in 1833, at Ft. Jefferson, and is buried on the land he first settled; his wife was a physician of much note in the early history of this county. Col. Mark T. Mills, son of the former, was one of the early Sheriffs of this county, and while serving his second term was elected a member of the Legislature; he was continued a member of this body for four or five years by the suffrage of the people. He was married to Miss Lydia Burdge, March 29, 1821, who still survives him, he having died in March, 1843; she is the wife of Henry Hutton, one of the early pioneers of Butler Township. Our subject continued business in New Madison till June, 1845, when he sold out his interest in the store to his brother, purchased a stock of goods and residence in Palestine, where he moved and commenced business next day; here he engaged with success for three years in dry goods, grain and pork; in 1848, he suffered a heavy financial loss in the pork business, this being a disastrous year to pork merchants; he then exchanged his stock of goods for a farm in Preble Co., Ohio, and lived on it two years, when he disposed of it, discharged all his financial obligations, and returned to Palestine; in the two succeeding years, engaged in the insurance business, and then was proprietor of a hotel for one year; after the act of Congress granting land-warrants to the soldiers of the war of 1812, he turned his attention to this business; in the fall of 1855, he, with his wife, went to Iowa and remained there till the following spring; in the mean time, he entered about 1,000 acres of land with the land-warrants which he had purchased, traveling over the State extensively; he returned to Palestine in the spring and engaged in the grocery business, which he continued till the spring of 1861, when he closed out his stock; in the mean time, he disposed of his Iowa lands and invested in real estate in this county. Soon after the commencement of the civil war, being an ardent supporter of Lincoln, he offered his services in defense of his country, and, on the 10th of October, 1861, was mustered into the United States Army; he was commissioned as Second Lieutenant of the 69th O. V. L., with authority to recruit a company. On the last day of the month, he reported to Col. Campbell, at Hamilton, Ohio, with thirty-one men; on the next day, he returned in company with Col. Campbell to this county, to recruit more men for the company; on the 19th of December, having completed the enlistment of the company, he was elected to office of Captain; they remained at Hamilton till the 19th of February, when the regiment was ordered to Camp Chase (the 1st of March, Gen. Buckner, with entire staff of officers, was brought to camp as prisoner, from Ft. Donelson); his regiment remained here on guard duty till the 19th of April, when they received orders to report at once to Nashville, Tenn.; they arrived there on the 22d of April, and were shortly put in charge of the railroad from Nashville to Columbia, where they remained till





June 8; they then accompanied an expedition under Gen. Dumont to Pikeville, by way of Nashville, Murfreesboro, McMinnville, and over the Cumberland Mountains; returning to Nashville. Col. Campbell was appointed Provost Marshal, and the regiment detained as Provost Guard of that city. About this time the rebel General, Morgan, made a raid upon Gallatin, capturing Col. Boone with 4th Kentucky; the 69th O. V. I., 11th Michigan and section of a battery, attacked Gen. Morgan and drove him out, the 69th losing one man killed—the first killed of the regiment. When Gen. Bragg made his flank movement on Louisville, the 69th was left to guard the city of Nashville, which, owing to the scarcity of troops, was regarded as rather perilous; while here, our subject was detailed as member of general court-martial, and remained on this duty 100 days; from this he was relieved on the 26th of December, and joined his regiment at Nolinsville, on its way to Murfreesboro; the regiment participated in most of the hard fighting which immediately followed at that place. On the morning of the 31st of December, Col. Cassilly, having succeeded Col. Campbell in command, was dismissed for unbecoming conduct, when the regiment was left for a time without a commander, in the midst of a hard fight, which soon reduced it to confusion and disorder. Our subject being ranking Captain of the regiment on the field, distinguished himself by taking command of the regiment, and bringing it into line again, which position they held, till ordered to fall back by Gen. Negley—the regiment suffered severely in killed and wounded during the day; on next day they were not engaged, but on the 2d of January they took part in the brilliant charge across Stone River, our subject commanding the left wing of the regiment; this was a desperate charge, and, with some slight skirmishing, closed the battle. The 69th had the honor of capturing the famous Washington Battery of New Orleans, the finest in the army (Sergt. Wilson, of our subject's company, deserves meritorious notice for his bravery in this charge; being disabled in the left arm, he was using a breech-loading carbine, and with it succeeded in capturing a regimental flag of the Nashville Regiment, while crossing the river.) From exposure previous to and during this battle, our subject, after wading the river waist-deep, which was floating with ice, fell prostrate to the ground, and was carried to a house near by; he remained here till the 10th of January, having been prostrated on the 5th, and then was taken to Nashville, remained here till the 6th of February, and then went to Murfreesboro, where he remained till the 20th of June, with the exception of thirty days, which time he spent at home on furlough. On the 20th, the army was examined, and all who were unfit for active duty were placed in the invalid corps; our subject, being examined, was reported unfit for active duty, and was offered the command of Ft. Thomas, but, his health being poor, he thought best to resign and return home; his resignation was accepted on the 21st of June, 1863, and, after some delay, arrived home July 12. On the 24th of July, a company of O. N. G. was organized in Palestine, and our subject elected Captain; in the following August, the 28th O. N. G. was organized, and he was elected Colonel; he took an active part in the Brough-Vallandigham campaign, and also assisted Col. Browne in the recruiting service. May 2, 1864, the O. N. G. were called out, by order of the Governor, and, although his health was still much impaired, his unflagging interest for his county led him to take his place as Colonel of the 28th O. N. G.; after arriving at Camp Dennison, their ten companies were consolidated into eight, and two were assigned them from Springfield; they were then organized into the 152d O. N. G., and, on the 12th of May, they were sent to New Creek, W. Va., and from there, on the 30th, to Martinsburg; they left there on the 4th of June, with a supply-train of 209 wagons, and orders to reach Gen. Hunter, who was then somewhere in the Shenandoah Valley, at all hazards; they were joined by five companies of 161st O. N. G., 2d Md., and sixty men of 15th N. Y. Cavalry, all under the command of our subject; they overtook the rear of Hunter's army on the 10th, at Staunton, and his army next day at Lexington; here, under Hunter's command, the famous mills and military institutions of Lexington were





destroyed by fire ; at the latter institution was found a statue of George Washington, life size, erected in 1788, which was turned over to our subject with special instructions to deliver it to the Governor of West Virginia, at Wheeling ; these instructions he carried out : they continued with Hunter's army till the 17th, when Gen. Hunter turned his prisoners, sick and wounded, and 200 wagons, over to the Colonel and ordered him to "get out ;" they marched in advance of Hunter's retreating army, arriving at Beverly on the 27th, being under fire more or less every day ; arrived at Cumberland, Md., the 2d of July, and remained there till the 25th of August, participating in several skirmishes in the vicinity : they were then ordered to Camp Dennison where they were mustered out of service on the 2d of September, and on the 5th received their pay and final discharge. After returning home the regiment resumed its old name, of 28th O. N. G., and our subject continued its Colonel till the close of the war ; he received three honorable discharges from the United States service, one from the 69th O. V. I., 152d O. N. G., and 28th O. N. G. Immediately after the close of the war, he engaged in the study of law under the direction of A. R. Calderwood of Greenville, and was admitted to practice at the May term of the District Court of Ohio, 1866 ; since then he has been engaged in the practice of law, giving his attention for several years particularly to the collection of soldiers' pensions. He was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace in 1870 and served a term of three years ; he is a member of the F. and A. M. Lodge of New Madison. Mr. and Mrs. Putman, have no children of their own, but have raised from infancy a cousin's child, by the name of M. P. Simison ; his paternal grandfather was the first white settler at Ft. Recovery, then a part of Darke Co., and one of his aunts was the first settler of Jay Co., Ind. ; he is now engaged in the drug business at Palestine, and is one of the promising young business men of the place.

ELIAS ROSS, farmer ; P. O. German. We herewith present the sketch of another of the early pioneers of this township in the name of Elias Ross ; he was born in Pickaway Co., Ohio, Feb. 20, 1811 ; he is the son of Henry Ross, who was a native of Virginia ; early in his youth, he left his parental roof and embarked on the sea of life without guide or counselor ; he soon found his way to Pickaway Co., Ohio, where he entered into the occupation of farming ; after dwelling here for a short time he moved to Big Darby Creek, Franklin Co. ; from there he came direct to this township and located on land in northwest part of Sec. 24 ; this was in October, 1817, and his family constituted one of the first in the township ; nothing but a vast wilderness greeted him on every hand, not even a log cabin could be found to house his family in when he landed here ; in lieu of this he was obliged to improvise a temporary shed, which served as a very imperfect shelter until he could erect a more substantial domicile ; this he set about at once to do ; gathering together what few settlers were to be found in the vicinity, they erected a "pioneer's home," the log cabin, completing the structure ready for use in one day, the first house built in one day in the township ; before they got their cabin built, the weather became very rigorous, snow falling to the depth of several inches, which produced no little suffering to the family in their temporary shed : the cabin erected and the family comfortably housed, the next thing to be done was to clear the land of its forests, preparatory to cultivation ; to have some land ready by spring, it was necessary to work through the winter, which was an unusually severe one ; this Mr. Ross did faithfully the whole winter through, although with much exposure ; thus began the sturdy pioneer, and, although these and many other difficulties confronted him, his indefatigable will conquered them all. Mr. Ross assisted in the erection of the first church built in the county. It was located in Washington Township on Sec. 36, and was built in 1819 ; it was a Methodist Church and is still (1880) standing, a relic of pioneer days, though not now used. Mr. Ross was the father of twelve children, one of whom met with a fatal accident at the age of 14, by a falling tree ; the rest grew up to mature years and ten are still living ; he was a local minister of the M. E. Church and for almost a lifetime



preached the Gospel and endeavored to turn the erring ones from their way; he lived to a ripe old age, his death occurring August, 1863: his wife had preceded him to her final rest. Our subject was only 6 years old when he came to this township with his parents: pioneers as they were, he grew up inured to the privations and hardships incident to such a life; he knows what hard work is, and what living "under difficulties" means: he remained at home contributing his labor to the subsistence of the family and clearing of the farm till he was of age: at this age, he entered the course of life on his own account; he first hired to David Puterbaugh for six months as a farm laborer; for the subsequent two years he was employed by Hezekiah Veitz, of Neave Township: the first one and one-half months he received \$8 per month; for the next four and one-half months he got \$6 per month; for the next year he received \$100; at the end of eighteen months, he found that he had lost only one day. For the next three months, he received \$10 per month. At the end of this time, September 4, 1834, he celebrated his first marriage with Miss Lucy Chapman. He was only permitted to live with her sixteen years and two days, when death claimed her as his victim, September 6, 1850. After his marriage he moved on the place where he now lives, having previously purchased and erected a cabin on it. In this he set out on the course of life with his companion. His first household furniture he manufactured himself with an ax and auger. Wishing to go into the manufacture of maple sugar, he purchased an auger on credit, with which to tap the trees, and paid for it by an entire night's work over his kettle-making sugar. This illustrates the extreme poverty of the early pioneers. In front of Mr. Ross' house stands an apple orchard of twenty-two trees, thrifty and productive, which he planted with his own hands, forty-five years ago. He was united in marriage the second time, October 16, 1851, to Mrs. Rebecca Farrow. Seven children were the fruits of the first union, three of whom are deceased, and six of the second union, three of whom are also deceased. He has been a consistent member of the U. B. Church for more than half a century, and lives an exemplary life. His first wife was also a member, and died in the triumphs of her faith. His present wife is also a faithful member of the same church.

ISAAC M. ROSS, farmer; P. O. German, Ohio. Mr. Ross is one of the promising young farmers of German Township; he was born on the place where he now resides, in 1841; his early life was that of a farmer-boy, his summers being given to farm duties, and his winter months spent in the common school. In the summer of 1861, he gave his services for the preservation of the Union, enlisting in the 44th O. V. I.; he remained in this service until the close of the war, and participated in the following hard-fought battles, besides numerous skirmishes: Lewisburg, Va., under command of Gen. Crook; Charlestown, W. Va., surrender of Cumberland Gap, where 1,400 regulars, with about as many militia accomplished the remarkable feat of capturing 2,600 rebels; he next participated in the thirty days' siege of Knoxville, Tenn., and then at the battle of Rutledge, at Strawberry Plains, Tenn., he re-enlisted, and was transferred to the 8th O. V. C., under Hunter's command; he was then in Hunter's campaign in the Shenandoah; participated in the two days' fight at Lynchburg, the 17th and 18th of June, 1864. This regiment covered Hunter's retreat from Lynchburg to Liberty, at which place they were used as a "forlorn hope for Hunter's army." In this campaign his regiment suffered severely, leaving about one-fourth of their men on the field of battle, and the rest, with the exception of about fifty, being wounded more or less severely. He received two slight wounds, one in the face and one in the head; retreated to Beverly, where they remained during the winter, participating in a severe engagement on the 29th of November; on the 11th of January, his brigade was captured, he being taken and retaken five times during the conflict, and finally escaping; he scouted around in West Virginia until August, 1864, when he was honorably discharged with his regiment, having served over four years; he returned to his present place, where he has since been successfully engaged in farming; he has a fine farm, well improved, and everything indicates





thrift and industry. He celebrated his marriage March, 1867, with Miss Ida Peden, of Hollandsburg. Mr. and Mrs. Ross are the parents of two children, aged 8 and 10, respectively.

A. B. RUSH, physician ; P. O. German. Dr. Rush descended from a distinguished family of early pioneers in this country ; was born in Harrison Township, on the 19th of January, 1842 ; his paternal ancestors were German, and his maternal, English. His father, John R., was born in Bath Co., Va., near Hot Springs, the 3d of June, 1798 ; his paternal grandfather, Dr. John Rush, was also a native of Virginia, and a near relative of the celebrated Dr. Benjamin Rush, under whom he received his first medical instructions, and to whose valuable library he had access. Dr. Rush emigrated to Ohio on or about the year 1800, and settled in Pickaway Co., on Big Darby Creek, where he followed successfully his profession ; in 1816, he came to this county and located in Harrison Township, just west of the present site of New Madison ; an injury received from a falling limb, soon after coming here, prevented the discharge of his professional duties ever after ; his first wife deceased in Pickaway Co. ; he was married to his second wife after coming here. John R., father of our subject, was 18 years old when he came to this county, and knew what pioneer life was ; his early life was that of a 'prentice boy, passed upon the farm ; he was united in marriage, April 13, 1824, to Miss Elizabeth W. Hill ; she was born in York District, South Carolina, November, 1788 ; she emigrated to the county with her parents in 1817 ; Mr. Rush's life was spent upon a farm ; his death occurred the 28th of January, 1863 ; his devoted wife survived him till April 4, 1871 ; thus we chronicle the departure of two more of the advance couriers of civilization, who pioneered their way into the untrodden wilds of this country, near the beginning of the present century. Dr. Rush, our subject, passed his early life on a farm : his early education was somewhat limited, but later he devoted himself assiduously to the acquisition of knowledge, giving his attention chiefly to the study of medicine ; he quite soon in life became proficient in this department of knowledge and entered upon the duties of his profession ; in the year 1878 he graduated from the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati ; he located where he now resides in 1871, and by careful attention to business has a large and lucrative practice ; his marriage with Miss Smelker was celebrated Dec. 7, 1866 ; she is a daughter of Jacob H. and Christina Smelker, both natives of Germany ; Jacob H. Smelker was born in Eppingen, State of Baden, Germany, Aug. 9, 1800 ; he emigrated to America in 1819, leaving Germany the 13th of May, and landing in Baltimore, Md., the 1st day of the following August ; on arriving in Baltimore, he found himself in possession of 5 cents in Low Dutch money, and no demand for labor in his line of work ; his penury would not permit him to waste much time in search of employment, so he took at once to the country and engaged himself to George Fank, a farmer, as a farm laborer ; at the end of one year, he found his way to Fredericksburg, where he halted for a period of three years, engaging, in the meantime, with various parties as a farm laborer ; his marriage with Miss Christina Denner was celebrated at this latter place ; he soon took up his journey westward, landing in Cincinnati May 21, 1824, from where he plied his way direct to Germantown, Montgomery Co. ; from there he moved on a farm just south of Louisburg, Preble Co. ; after some years, he moved to this township and has resided here since : Mrs. Smelker's decease occurred the 15th day of February, 1850 ; fourteen children, forty grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren have been born to them ; his children are as follows : Born in Preble Co., George, July 17, 1824 ; Jacob, July 20, 1825 ; Sophia, April 22, 1827 ; William, Sept. 14, 1828 ; Eli, Jan. 9, 1830 ; John, Jan. 15, 1831 ; Henry, Jan. 21, 1832 ; David, Nov. 21, 1834 ; born in Darke Co., Daniel, Sept. 11, 1836 ; Sarah, April 13, 1838 ; Elizabeth, Aug. 22, 1841 ; Catherine, May 10, 1844 ; Anna, Feb. 14, 1846 ; one deceased in infancy ; Dr. and Mrs. Rush are the parents of three children.

C. C. SATER, physician ; P. O. German ; the subject of this memoir is a





native of Indiana, and was born October, 1843, near Brookville; he is a son of Ephraim S., who emigrated to Indiana in 1840; here he remained till his death, which occurred in 1854; his wife still survives him, and is in the enjoyment of good health. Our subject's early life was spent on a farm, his summer months devoted to the duties of farm life, and his winter months to the acquisition of knowledge in the common school; he thus obtained a good common-school education; in the spring of 1861, having accumulated, by his industry and economy, some money, he entered Liber College, Indiana, as a student; after spending about three months at this place, he returned home, and volunteered his services for the defense of his country. On the 25th of July, he enlisted in the 19th I. V. I. at Richmond, Ind., Col. Solomon Meredith commandant, and on the 29th was mustered into service at Indianapolis; the regiment was soon ordered to Washington, D. C., where it remained till the following spring, engaged in guard duty, constructing forts, etc.; the spring and summer of 1862 were spent between Washington and Richmond, under command of Gen. McDowell; in the fall, he participated in Pope's campaign, which terminated in the second Bull Run battle; the regiment was now transferred to the command of Gen. McClellan, and engaged in the hard-fought battles of South Mountain and Antietam; the next battle he participated in was at Fredericksburg, Va., Gen. Burnside, commander; at the beginning of this engagement, his regiment made a brilliant and successful charge in open position across the Rappahannock to dislodge the enemies on the opposite side; dating from this he was promoted to Sergeant's rank; he next participated in the hard-fought battle of Chancellorsville, under command of Gen. Joseph Hooker; on the 1st of July, 1863, he was engaged in the decisive battle of Gettysburg, Penn., and while at his post of duty was severely wounded in right arm and shoulder; this disabled him from any more active service, and he was placed in the hospital at Portsmouth Grove, R. I.; here he remained till the expiration of his term of service, which occurred on the 29th of July, 1864, when he was honorably discharged from the service of the United States. He then came to Darke County, and was soon engaged as clerk in dry-goods store at Wiley's Station, he remained here two years, and then turned his attention to the art of telegraphing; not liking this occupation, he next gave his time to the study of medicine, receiving his instructions under the directions of the Drs. Matchett; he attended lectures at the Miami Medical College, Cincinnati, graduating in the spring of 1872. He first located and engaged in the practice of his profession in Sandusky County; he next formed a partnership with Dr. Ballard, of Arcanum, which lasted one year, when he formed a partnership with Dr. Matchett, of Greenville; he was subsequently located for two years at New Paris, Preble County, from which place he came to Palestine Oct. 1, 1877, where he has been engaged in practice since, discharging his professional duties with commendable zeal and success. In 1872, he was united in marriage with Miss Helen McCaughy, then engaged in teaching in Greenville. Dr. Sater identified himself with the Presbyterian Church of Greenville in 1878, and is a member of the Greenville Lodge, F. & A. M. Mr. and Mrs. Sater are the parents of two children, one deceased.

I. Q. SINKS, farmer; P. O. German. The subject of this memoir was born in April, 1829, about twelve miles northwest of Dayton, in Montgomery Co. he is the son of Andrew Sinks, a native of North Carolina, who emigrated to Ohio with his parents previous to the beginning of the present century, and settled north of Dayton, on the Stillwater; this was then on the frontier of civilization, and his family constituted one of the first in the neighborhood; he was about two years old when he arrived there; he was raised on a farm and accustomed to its duties; this occupation he followed all his life, living upon the same farm where he first located until his death, which occurred at the ripe old age of 87 years. He was married to Miss Yount, who was also a native of North Carolina, and emigrated to Ohio in about 1800; she survived her husband about three years, when her death occurred at the ripe old age of 84 years. Mr. and Mrs. Sinks were the





parents of twelve children, ten sons and two daughters, nine of whom are still living. Our subject is next to the youngest of the family : he was brought up on a farm, and remained at home until he attained his majority ; at this period he celebrated his marriage with Miss Williamson, who was also born in Montgomery Co.; her father was a native of Virginia, and her mother a native of Warren Co., Ohio. Soon after the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Sinks, they moved to their present place, and have resided here ever since, a period of twenty-seven years ; they are the parents of seven children—Sarah S., born Dec. 1, 1851 ; Oliver P., born April 29, 1853 ; Noah W., born April 3, 1855 ; Emma J., born Jan. 28, 1857, deceased Nov. 11, 1858 ; Leora, born March 20, 1858, deceased Oct. 6, 1879 ; Clarrissa, born May 13, 1860 ; Loretta, born April 16, 1862.

**WILLIAM H. SETTLE**, farmer, P. O. German. Mr. Settle is a native of North Carolina, was born in Rockingham Co., Feb. 5, 1840 ; he is the son of Josiah and Nancy Settle, both natives of North Carolina : Mr. Settle was principally raised upon a farm ; at the age of 6 he was taken to Mississippi by his parents ; in 1855, he emigrated to Ohio with his parents, settling first in Hamilton, Butler Co. During the late civil war, he was engaged most of the time on a boat on the rivers Mississippi, Missouri and White, principally as a Government employe ; in 1866, he returned to Butler Co., and engaged in farming, which occupation he has followed with marked success ever since. He was united in marriage, in Cincinnati, March 15, 1869, to Miss Josie Triplet ; she was born and raised in that city. Immediately after his marriage, he moved to his present place, having previously purchased the farm, which consists of 160 acres. He is a self-made man ; beginning with almost nothing, he has, by his own exertions, put himself in possession of a large fertile and well-improved farm. They are the parents of six children, two of whom have been removed from the family circle by death.

**WILLIAM SPENCER**, farmer ; P. O. Hollandsburg. Mr. Spencer is another of the early pioneers of this county ; he was born in Greene Co., Ohio, Oct. 12, 1812 ; he is of English descent, and is the son of Francis Spencer, who was a native of Kentucky ; he emigrated to Ohio when quite young, and located in Greene Co., previous to the war of 1812 ; he served in this struggle for a short period as a soldier ; his father was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and was severely wounded by a shot fired by an Indian ; Francis Spencer emigrated to this county in the spring of 1817, and located in the southwest quarter of Sec. 3, in Harrison Township. But few civilized men had then penetrated the untrodden wilds of our country, and Mr. Spencer constituted one of the van couriers of civilization ; he moved with his family, first into a log cabin, mother earth constituting the floor ; here he began carving for himself a home in the dense forests, which was soon accomplished by his untagging industry. He celebrated his marriage with Miss Sarah Spencer, about the beginning of the present century ; she was also a native of Kentucky ; they were the parents of eleven children, to wit : Elizabeth, born Nov. 23, 1802, now deceased ; Delilah, born Feb. 26, 1804, now deceased ; Anderson, born Jan. 28, 1806 ; Ludlow, born Dec. 3, 1808, now deceased ; Eliza, Dec. 3, 1810 ; William, born Oct. 12, 1812 ; Clark, born May 31, 1814, now deceased ; Anna, born Aug. 14, 1816 ; Jackson, born Nov. 22, 1818 ; Sarah, born April 17, 1822 ; Mark T., Dec. 31, 1827, now deceased. Mrs. Spencer departed her life at the age of 72 years ; Mr. Spencer lived to the ripe old age of 90 years, his death occurring Aug. 14, 1874 ; thus departed from their privations below, two more of the pioneers of this county. Our subject was only 5 years old when he came with his parents to this county : his early days were devoted to such work as the frontiersman usually finds to do ; he thus became early inured to pioneer life ; he remained at home on the farm till he grew up to mature years. He was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Irwin, in 1831 ; she was born in Pennsylvania, and emigrated to this State with her parents when quite small, locating first in Greene Co. ; after the marriage of Mr. Spencer, he moved to the place where he now lives, and





engaged in agricultural pursuits ; Mr. and Mrs. Spencer are the parents of eleven children, four of whom have deceased ; his son, Irwin, engages during the winter months in the profession of teaching.

**BARNEY TEAFORD**, farmer ; P. O. German. The subject of this sketch was born February 3, 1825, near the place where he now resides. He is the son of George Teaford, a history of whose life appears in Jonathan Teaford's sketch. He remained on the homestead with his parents until he was 33 years of age. He was engaged in agricultural pursuits up to this time, and after he arrived at maturity with his twin brother Jonathan. Beginning when the country was comparatively new, he knows what hard work is. He celebrated his marriage March 20, 1859, with Miss Margaret Stapleton. She is a native of Indiana, born in Wayne Co., November 13, 1838. At the age of about 6 years, she came to this county with her parents. Her paternal grandfather was an early pioneer of the county. He settled four miles below Hollandsburg, in Harrison Township, in an early day. Mr. Teaford, after his marriage, moved to the place where he now resides, and where he has ever since lived. We see, in his large, well-improved farms and fine residence, industry and frugality richly rewarded. Mr. and Mrs. Teaford are the parents of seven children, four of whom death's messenger has visited and consigned to the silent tomb. Their names are as follows : Jonathan, born March 8, 1860 ; departed this life October 29, 1862. Norman, born March 24, 1861. Infant son, born April 15, 1862, died the same day. Oscar, born June 30, 1864, departed this life, Sept. 25, 1866 ; Samuel, born July 20, 1867 ; Charles, born Nov. 18, 1870, departed this life June 25, 1871 ; Flora, Alice, born May 10, 1874.

**JONATHAN TEAFORD**, farmer ; P. O. German. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch is one of the large farmers of German Township ; he was born Feb. 3, 1825, near the place where he now resides ; is the son of George Teaford, one of the early pioneers of this township. Mr. Teaford, Sr., was born in Augusta Co., Va., and when quite young emigrated to Fairfield Co., Ohio ; here he remained several years, engaged as a laborer upon a farm ; he emigrated to German Township with the Ketrings, who constituted one of the first families in the township ; he found this country then almost untouched by the hand of civilization ; the "sons of the bow and arrow" still lingered around, and wild game was abundant. April 6, 1820, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Magdalena Ketrings ; she was also one of the early pioneers of the township, and a native of Pennsylvania. Shortly after his marriage, he moved to the place where the subject of this sketch now resides, his father-in-law having previously bequeathed him the land, then all in the woods ; here he erected a cabin and resided till a few years before his death, when he took up his abode with his son Barney. Mr. and Mrs. George Teaford were the parents of twelve children, as follows : Jacob, born Feb. 10, 1821, deceased September, 1826 ; Rebecca, born Feb. 1, 1822, deceased, October, 1825 ; George, born Sept. 24, 1823 ; Jonathan and Barney, twins, Feb. 3, 1825 ; Hester, July 26, 1827 ; Elizabeth, Oct. 23, 1828 ; Amelia, March 28, 1830 ; Sarah, Feb. 18, 1832 ; Susannah, born March 12, 1835, deceased, December, 1837 ; David, born Sept. 28, 1836, deceased Aug. 5, 1838 ; Aaron, born June 16, 1837, deceased June 24, 1839. Mrs. Teaford departed this life Feb. 13, 1861 : her husband survived her till Jan. 29, 1874, when his death occurred. Thus we record the death of two more of the early pioneers of German Township, who passed away leaving a large circle of acquaintances and a large family to mourn their loss. Mr. Jonathan Teaford was raised a farmer, and early became accustomed to its arduous duties ; he remained at home assisting on the farm till he grew up to years of maturity ; he then, with his twin brother, engaged in farming on rented land ; they formed a partnership thus early in life, which existed till a few years ago, when the property, consisting of several large farms, which were jointly held and managed by them, was divided. Our subject was united in marriage with Miss Sophia Smelker March 8, 1848 ; she was born in Preble Co., Ohio, and at the





age of about 6 years she came to this county with her parents. (Her parents receive notice under the sketch of A. B. Rush.) After the marriage of Mr. Teaford, he rented a farm about one mile east of where he now lives, and farmed it about six years. He then, in connection with his brother, purchased 80 acres of land just west of his present place; by their habits of industry, they added farm after farm to their possessions, till they owned a half-section of land in one body; they then made a division, each taking a quarter-section; since then, he has added other farms to his possessions, and has them all well improved; he has one of the finest brick residences in the township. Mr. and Mrs. Teaford are the parents of ten children, seven of whom are living.

J. B. TENNELL, physician, German; was born near the city of Lexington, Ky., Nov. 20, 1833; his paternal and maternal grandparents came from Scotland in an early day and settled in Virginia; remaining there a few years, they removed to Jessamine County, Ky., where Joseph Tennell, the Doctor's father, was born in the year 1796. Our subject, Buford, as he was called when a boy, was the youngest of a family of ten children. His mother died when he was 2 years old, and a step-mother died some eight years later. From that time on, he lived among strangers, struggled with poverty and fought the battle of life on his own hook—working on a farm for 25 cents a day during the summer and fall, and attending school through the winter. When 15 years of age, he came to Franklin, Ind., and attended a select school for one year; then entered the Franklin College, and continued his studies there for about four years, teaching a district school three terms to secure means to pay his board and expenses. He then commenced and read medicine for three years as a pupil under old Dr. Mackey. Attended medical lectures in the Allopathic Department of Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1855-56. After practicing some three years, he was persuaded to abandon medicine and enter the ministry, which he did, and spent three years as a traveling minister in the U. B. Church. Not being fully satisfied, he decided to return to the business which he had spent so much of his time in order to qualify himself to follow. Before resuming practice, he attended another course of medical lectures at Cincinnati, Ohio, receiving therefrom the degree of M. D. Since then he has been actively engaged in his profession in the counties of Union, Randolph and Howard, Ind. Five years ago, on account of good roads, he located at Palestine, in this county, where he has a nice residence, and has a large and lucrative practice. The Doctor is a large, portly man, weighing two hundred pounds, is well preserved, and has never used tobacco in any form, nor ardent spirits as a beverage. His life is a practical demonstration that any young man of mind and energy can succeed, if they determine to do so.

S. S. THOMAS, farmer; P. O. Hollandsburg, Ohio. The subject of this memoir is an early settler and prominent citizen of this township; he was born July 30, 1828, near the place where he now resides; he is of Welsh descent, and the son of Charles W. Thomas, one of the pioneers of this township; he was born in Maryland, and emigrated to Ohio when quite young (notice last of sketch); he settled first in Greene Co., where he celebrated his marriage with Miss Mercy Sackett; she was born in North Carolina and emigrated to Greene Co. with her parents about the beginning of the present century; her father, Cyrus Sackett, was a soldier in the great struggle for American independence; he celebrated his marriage with Mrs. Sackett in 1792. Mr. Charles Thomas came to this county about 1826 and located on land previously entered by his father, Daniel Thomas, Sec. 31, in German Township; he found it then covered with the mantle of nature, and the country a vast wilderness; at that time it required nerve and courage to begin life there; this, however, was not wanting with Mr. Thomas, and the wilderness was soon made to "blossom as the rose;" he lived on this place till 1864, when he disposed of it and moved into Hollandsburg; while on a visit to Greene Co., he was taken sick with fever from which he never recovered; his death occurred Sept. 1, 1872, at the age of 74 years 8 months and 4 days; his devoted





wife preceded him to her final rest several years, her death occurring June 29, 1859. Mr. and Mrs. T. were faithful members of the M. E. Church, and their lives were examples of Christian piety and virtue; nine children, four sons and five daughters were born to them, all of whom are still living. Our subject's youthful days were passed upon the farm; at the age of 18, he was apprenticed to the "cabinet trade," and served a term of two years; he then engaged at journey-work in Richmond, Ind., for a period of five years; at the end of this time, he purchased a cabinet-shop in Palestine, which he controlled about one year and disposed of it, moving to the place where he now resides. He was united in marriage with Miss Caroline Berry April 29, 1835; she was born in Hamilton, Butler Co., Jan. 15, 1837, and came to this county with her parents in 1838, locating where she now lives, in Sec. 32; her father, Thomas Berry, was a native of Virginia, and emigrated to this State when a young man; he was married to Betsey Randolph, a native of Butler Co., Ohio; his death occurred Sept. 8, 1839; his wife survived him till Aug. 4, 1851, when her death occurred; she had previously united in marriage with Mr. William Freeman; Mr. and Mrs. Berry were both zealous members of the M. E. Church, and passed peacefully to rest when their life's work was ended, lamented by all who knew them. Mr. Thomas is one of those who left the comforts of home and endured the perils of the battle-field for the preservation of the Union; he enlisted in the Eighth Ohio Battery early in the spring of 1864, and participated in the battles of Black River Bridge and Yazoo City; he was honorably discharged with the regiment at Camp Dennison, Aug. 5, 1865; in politics, Mr. Thomas is a Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are the parents of ten children, three of whom died when quite young; two sons and five daughters are still living; one daughter, Ellen, was united in marriage, Nov. 8, 1877, with G. W. Hill, son of H. L. Hill. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are consistent members of the M. E. Church. Charles W. Thomas was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was stationed at Fort Meigs most of the time during the period of his service.

WILLIAM WADE, farmer; P. O. German, Ohio. William Wade, one of the few remaining early pioneers of this county, was born Nov. 9, 1818, on the south east quarter of Sec. 13, in Harrison Township, where the south part of New Madison now stands; he is of English descent, and the son of William Wade, Sr., who was born in Maryland; he emigrated to Ohio previous to the war of 1812, and located first in Preble Co., and from there he went to Harrison Township in 1818, settling on the place on which our subject was born; he then constituted one of the first settlers in that township; he departed this life at the age of 61 years, his wife surviving him several years, when her death occurred in Wayne Co., Ind. Both were buried in the cemetery at New Madison. Our subject's boyhood days did not differ much from those of most of the pioneer boys; he shared in the trials and difficulties incident to frontier life; his father being an invalid the management of the farm early fell to his charge; this duty he discharged successfully until he reached the age of 24. The meagerness of educational advantages at that day, together with the duties of the farm, which early devolved upon him, rendered his education, so far as books were concerned, much limited; just previous to leaving the homestead, July 23, 1842, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Susannah Ross; she is the daughter of Nathaniel Ross, one of the early pioneers of the township; he settled here February, 1819, and in the following August, Mrs. Wade was born; she has witnessed all the changes in this section of country, from the thickets of the forest to the waving grain-fields of to-day. Soon after Mr. Wade's marriage, he moved to Neave Township, locating on a farm which he had previously purchased of Reuben Lowry; at the end of four years, he disposed of this farm and purchased and moved on the one on which he now resides; he has resided here ever since, a period of thirty years. Mr. Wade has risen by his own exertions to a place among the foremost farmers of his section of country. Mr. and Mrs. Wade are the parents of one child, a daughter, Mary, born Oct. 15, 1843; she was united in marriage to Charles W. Sentmen July 19, 1867; she





departed her life Nov. 18, 1874; her life was short, though complete; her work was finished and she passed peacefully away, leaving a large circle of acquaintances, a kind father and mother, a husband and two loving daughters, to mourn her departure and revere her memory; she was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church until death, and lived in the discharge of her Christian duties; in her death, society lost a useful member. Mr. and Mrs. Wade take a great interest in the cause of religion, both being consistent members of the United Brethren Church, and living exemplary lives.

JACOB F. WARE, farmer; P. O. German. Mr. Ware is another of the early settlers and prominent citizens of German Township; he is paternally of German and maternally of English descent, and comes of Revolutionary stock; he was born Dec. 13, 1819, in Preble Co., Ohio, and is the son of John Ware, who was a native of Tennessee, being born there Feb. 11, 1785; he emigrated to Ohio in 1810 and located in Montgomery County, on Stillwater; from there he shortly moved to Preble County, locating near West Alexandria, in the vicinity of which he remained till his death, a period of sixty-two years; he was a soldier of the war of 1812, and shared in the privations and hardships of that struggle; he was under Gen. Harrison's command, and was present at the celebrated treaty of Ft. Greenville, in 1814; his father was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and served for seven years in that great struggle for freedom. John Ware, by his services in the war of 1812, was entitled to a land-warrant of 160 acres, which he located where our subject now resides; this warrant was given under James Monroe. Mr. Ware, the subject of this sketch, was reared a farmer boy, and remained at home assisting in duties of the farm till he was 21 years of age; at this time, he engaged at the carpenter trade, which he followed about six years, when he moved to the place where he now resides and turned his attention to farming; he celebrated his marriage in 1844, with Miss M. Catherine Rittenour; she was born in Virginia, and emigrated to Ohio with her parents when only 7 years old, settling near New Madison, Harrison Township; on the 16th of February, 1879, the messenger of death entered Mr. Ware's home and took from it his devoted wife; her life's work ended, her duties done, she passed peacefully away, leaving a kind and affectionate husband and four loving children to mourn her departure and revere her memory; Mrs. Ware was a faithful member of the church for twenty-two years before she died, and in her death the church lost a useful member and the community a valuable citizen. Mr. Ware is one of the self-made men of this county; when he moved to the place where he now resides, in 1848, he found it all in the woods, the underbrush so thick that he had to grub a place for the horses to lie down the first night; here he began in a log cabin, surrounded on every side by dense forests, on a small piece of land bequeathed him by his father; the outlook was by no means flattering, but with that indomitable energy which served him well then, and has been his guiding genius ever since, being ably assisted by his noble wife, he soon carved for himself a farm and beautiful home out of the wilderness; by habits of industry and economy he has added to the first possession till he now has a fine fertile farm of 244 acres under excellent improvement; he made and used perhaps the first jumping-shovel plow anywhere in that vicinity; with this plow he has prepared ground in the green upon which he has raised sixty bushels of corn per acre. Mr. and Mrs. Ware are the parents of five children, one of whom has died; three of the others are married, and one, a son, still remains at home. Mr. Ware is no aspirant for office; having been repeatedly tendered important offices of trust, he has always refused to accept; he lives an exemplary life, and formerly held his connections with the United Brethren denomination.

WILLIAM H. WARNER, farmer; P. O. German. The subject of this memoir was born in Neave Township, March 8, 1849; he is of English descent, and the son of Henry W., who was born in Montgomery Co., November 1819; he was a farmer by occupation from his boyhood days till his death; he was united in marriage to Miss Lotta Williamson, in 1846; she was also a native of Montgomery





County; after their marriage. Mr. W. engaged in farming in above county till 1857, with the exception of one year, when they lived in Neave township. in this county; at above date he came to German Township and located on land in Sec. 13; here he lived until his death, which occurred in April, 1874; his wife preceded him to her final rest about six years, her decease occurring in February, 1868; they had seven children born to them, to wit: Amanda, deceased in infancy; Almira, William H., George (deceased), Lorenzo, Franklin and Emma. Our subject was brought up on a farm, and remained at home till he grew to maturity. He celebrated his nuptials with Miss Sarah Flory in October 1813; she was the daughter of Emanuel Flory, whose biography we sub tend to this; after the marriage of Mr. Warner he moved on his father-in-law's place, which he has since been farming. April 8, 1878, he was called upon to mourn the loss of his devoted wife. Her life was short, but full of usefulness, and her death was lamented by all who knew her. Two children, sons, were born to them. Andrew J. and Horatio. Mr. Warner is in politics a Democrat. Emanuel Flory was an early settler of this township; he was born in Montgomery County, Jan. 12, 1810, and is the son of Emanuel F., Sr., a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1776; he emigrated to Ohio in July, 1806, locating on Wolf Creek, Montgomery County; he was a farmer by occupation. He was married to Miss Sarah Kaga some years before coming to Ohio; the 17th of March, 1834, he came with his family to Darke County, locating on Sec. 12, where Emanuel F., Jr., now resides; some three or four years previous to this he came out and erected a water-power saw-mill, on West Branch, the first in that locality. Mrs. Flory died in 1822. Nine children were born to this union, only three of whom are yet living. Mr. F. consummated his second marriage with Mrs. Royer, who died in September, 1853, she having survived her husband about four years, his death occurring March 9, 1849. Emmanuel F., Jr., was reared on a farm, after coming to this county with his parents, he engaged on his father's saw-mill for a period of about five years; since then he has lived on and farmed, till a few years ago, the homestead which he purchased. he was married to Miss Waggerman in 1852, who was born near Brookville, Montgomery County, in 1816; she departed this life Jan. 15, 1872; during life she was a faithful member of the German Baptist Church. Mr. Flory has been a consistent member of the same church for nearly half a century, and is living an exemplary life.

**JAMES WILLCOX**, farmer; P. O. German; the subject of this memoir was born in Germantown, Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1817; he is the son of James Wilcox, Sr., and Elizabeth (Kester) Wilcox; James Wilcox, Sr., was born in the State of New York, on the Mohawk River, near the site of "Stillwater" battle field; his father was a soldier in the great struggle for American independence and participated in the above battle; James Wilcox was a shoemaker by occupation, and at one time worked in Stephen Girard's shop, in Philadelphia; while here he made for Henry Clay the pair of boots which he wore to the "Treaty of Ghent," the boots costing \$40; he emigrated to Ohio in 1815, landing at Cincinnati with 50 cents in his pocket, and all his earthly possessions tied up in a silk handkerchief; from there he pushed his way northward, and finally came to a halt in Germantown, Montgomery County; here he engaged at his occupation for five or six years, and then moved to Preble County, where he added to his trade farming; from there he came to this county, March 18, 1839, and located in German Township, on land which he had previously purchased near the present town of Palestine; here he engaged in farming and sawmilling. He was married soon after coming to this State, to Miss Elizabeth Kester, a native of Lancaster County, Penn.; she came to Ohio with her parents when quite small. Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox were the parents of thirteen children, five of whom have deceased; the living are as follows: James (our subject), John, Charles, David, Phoebe A., William, Elizabeth and Elijah; the deceased are Lavina, Memlius, Levi, Jeremiah and Mary J. Mrs. Wilcox departed this life October, 1855, and





Mr. Willcox the 4th of February, 1856 ; by their deaths the community lost useful citizens and the family affectionate parents. Our subject was raised to farm labor, assisting his father in farming till he attained his majority, attending the common schools during winter months ; he emigrated to this county with his parents in 1839 ; at the end of one year he went to Butler County, and engaged for a time at wood-chopping ; while here he accidentally discovered that he could put up a barrel about as good as an experienced cooper, and accepted a proposition from a professional cooper to engage in the business ; he made 430 barrels, averaging eight barrels per day as his first work ; he remained in Butler County altogether about three years, and then returned to this county, engaging in saw-milling for the next eighteen years continuously and successfully ; he then purchased and moved to the place where he now resides, which consists of 160 acres, the most of which he has cleared and placed in its present highly improved condition. He has been married twice : his first marriage was consummated with Miss Sarah J. Clendenine in June, 1841 ; she died five months after their marriage ; his second marriage was celebrated, June 8, 1848, with Miss Elizabeth Ketring, a sketch of whose parents occurs in the biographies of this township ; she was born in this township. Mr. and Mrs. Willcox are the parents of nine children, three of whom are married : Signorette L., born Feb. 28, 1849 ; Alice E., Jan. 8, 1851 ; Marquis L., Aug. 7, 1853 ; Mary F., April 5, 1855, deceased Feb. 25, 1856 ; Percival F., May 5, 1857 ; Isaac N., May 3, 1859 ; David M., June 15, 1862 ; Joseph S., Dec. 27, 1864 ; Charles Sumner, April 12, 1861 ; Martha E., June 16, 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Willcox take a great interest in the cause of religion, both being consistent members of the Christian Church of Palestine.

JESSE WOODS, farmer ; P. O. German. The subject of this sketch is one of the prominent citizens of Darke County, and a pioneer of German Township ; he was born in Virginia in 1818, and was only 2 years old when he came to this township with his parents in 1821 ; he is of English descent, his father, James Woods, was born in St. James' Park, London, May 25, 1767, and died at his son's, near Palestine, on the 21st day of August, 1869, aged 102 years 2 months and 26 days ; his remains were laid to rest in the beautiful Palestine Cemetery, and a marble monument is reared over his grave. At the time of his birth St. James' Park was three miles out of the city, but since then the city has grown around it ; he followed sea life as a sailor for about twenty years ; he emigrated to America somewhere about the beginning of the present century, and settled in Virginia ; in 1821, he took up his journey westward, with his family, and settled in this county, in German Township, where his son Jesse now lives ; on this place he spent the remainder of his eventful life ; his marriage was celebrated in Virginia ; he was the father of eight children. Jesse Woods, our subject, knows what pioneer life is ; he has shared in the trials and triumphs incident to such a life ; he has witnessed the changes wrought in this country for over one-half century, and has applied himself persistently and vigorously to develop its present vast resources ; his duties in his youth were those of a pioneer farmer boy ; his early education, so far as book knowledge is concerned, was necessarily limited, as opportunities in this direction were meager, and his time and labor principally demanded on the farm ; vivid to his recollection is the appearance of the first schoolhouse which he attended ; it was a "fac-simile" of the pioneer schoolhouse—the progeny of necessity, not the sound of a nail was heard in its construction, nor a glass window seen in it after its completion ; his first teacher was William R. Jones, the first pedagogue in the township ; he kept the characteristic "land school" of the backwoods, and his plans of punishing unruly scholars would appear as odd to-day as his methods of teaching. Mr. Woods was married in 1844, to Miss Anna Stevens ; she is the daughter of David Stevens ; he was born in Pennsylvania Oct. 31, 1792, and died Jan. 8, 1879 ; he was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was one of a number who were detailed to carry provisions from Ft. Nesbit to the Kentucky soldiers, who were on the retreat from Muncie to Ft. Greenville ; they proceeded





under a forced march through the wilderness, and snow knee-deep, to the relief of the brave Kentuckians. After the marriage of our subject, he remained upon the place where he was reared, and continued agricultural pursuits; through his energy and good business habits, he has been eminently successful in life; he is no political aspirant, but a few years ago was elected to the office of County Commissioner, in which capacity he served three years, discharging its duties with fidelity and satisfaction to his constituents; he positively abhors political trickery and official corruption of all kinds, and is a strong advocate of and adherent to honesty and integrity. Mr. and Mrs. Woods are the parents of thirteen children, eight of whom are still living.

## WAYNE TOWNSHIP.

J. W. APPLE, retired farmer, Versailles, Ohio; was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, April 22, 1825. John Apple, the father of J. W., was one of the old pioneers of Montgomery County, born in the year 1800—emigrated from Pennsylvania. J. W. lived with his parents on the farm, attending school during the winter season, and, working on the farm during the summer, obtained a good common-school education, and at the age of 20 was united in marriage to Miss Elvina Miller, in Montgomery County, April 10, 1845. Left his parental roof, and, with his good wife, moved into the woods, built a log cabin, and commenced to clear a farm—did not have a cent of money, and was in debt \$100—has by his hard labor, economy, strict temperate habits, and the help of his industrious wife, accumulated a handsome fortune. Mr. Apple has passed through the many struggles, incidents and dangers so common to the pioneer of the great West, has many warm friends, and is beloved by all who know him, has taken an active part in religion, and is, with his amiable wife a member of the Lutheran Church—has had his full share of township offices, viz., Township Trustee one year, Land Appraiser one year, and served one term as Assessor, School Director, etc. Mr. Apple followed farming for a period of about thirty years, after which he moved to Versailles where he now resides. Ten children were the fruits of their union, viz., Sarah A. born July 4, 1846 (deceased); John W., born April 28, 1848; Jacob A., born Oct. 31, 1850; Maria D., born Oct. 25, 1852; Mary L., born Aug. 20, 1854; Leroy C., born Dec. 5, 1856; Uriah V., born April 12, 1859 (deceased); Henry J., Feb. 16, 1862 (deceased); Ida E., born June 3, 1865; Martha J., born Oct. 13, 1867 (deceased).

JACOB G. BASHOR, farmer and stock raiser; P. O. Webster, Ohio. Jacob, his father, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Schuylkill Co., on the 19th of January, 1801; was a carpenter by trade, and at the age of 25 he celebrated his marriage with Sarah Naughtsinger, who was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Berks Co., on the 2d of April, 1805; in the spring of 1828, he moved to Rockingham Co., Va., where they remained about six years, and in the fall of 1834, he emigrated to Ohio, locating one mile west of Corington, Miami Co., where he purchased 50 acres of land, for which he paid \$800, and in 1840, he sold out for \$1,800, and purchased 160 acres in the same township, paying \$1,600; he remained here till his death, which occurred on the 3d of September, 1879; Sarah, his widow, is living on the old home place, with her daughter Fanny (Mote); they were the parents of seven children, of whom all are living, viz., Jacob G., Sarah, Benjamin, John, Anna, Catherine and Fanny. Jacob G., the subject of this sketch, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Berks Co., on the 25th of January, 1827; came with his parents to Ohio, when he was about 7 years old; spending his boyhood's days on his father's farm, assisting him on the farm and at the carpentering trade; he obtained his education in the subscription schools; when he arrived at his majority, he hired





with his father to work at the carpentering trade for two years, receiving a compensation of \$180 for the first year, and \$200 for the second. On the 15th of August, 1847, he celebrated his marriage with Sarah Miller, daughter of Jacob and Polly Miller, who was a native of Darke Co., Ohio, born on the 17th of January, 1827; in 1850, he moved on his father-in-law's farm (Darke Co., Adams Township), when he farmed one year, after which he removed to Wayne Township, Sec. 31, where he had purchased 100 acres of land, for which he paid \$2,000, and here is where he applied the \$330 which he had earned in the two years in which he worked for his father; he has resided here ever since, making farming his business; he has added 85 acres, but sold 5 acres for town lots, leaving 180 in the farm; he also owned 80 acres in Marshall Co., Ind., his present place of residence, which is well improved, on which is a bank-barn, 70x36, a large two-story brick house, with basement story, and a large tobacco shed, all of which he has accumulated by his hard labor, assisted by his good and amiable wife; he is strictly temperate in all his habits. Mr. and Mrs. Bashor are members of the German Baptist Church, being connected with that church for upward of thirty years; he has had his full share of township offices since his residence in the county, viz.: served as Trustee of Wayne Township, three years; Supervisor four consecutive years; member of School Board twelve years. They are the parents of nine children, of whom six are living, viz.: Jacob M., born Sept. 9, 1848; Susan, born May 6, 1851; Sarah, Dec. 19, 1853; John N., Nov. 17, 1858; Mary, Aug. 3, 1861; Anna, May 14, 1864. John N. has been teaching school since he was 17 years old, and is meeting with good success; he is a live, energetic teacher.

**DANIEL BOYER**, farmer, grain and stock raiser, Sec. 35; P. O. Webster. Daniel, his father, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in York Co., in about the year 1800. He married Elizabeth Hoff, who is a native of the same State and county, born in 1799. Mr. Boyer followed farming in Pennsylvania, where he resided till his death, which occurred in 1847. Elizabeth, his widow, remained on the old home farm till 1867, when she came to Darke Co., and at present resides with her daughter Barbara, who married Peter Moul, Adams Township. They were the parents of eleven children, viz.: Jonas, Maria, Barbara, Mannassa, Catharine, Henry, John, Samuel, Elizabeth, Aaron and Daniel. The subject of this sketch, who is a native of Pennsylvania, born in York Co., on the 25th of September, 1834, lived at home till he was about 14 years old, when he went to work for his Uncle Peter Blaser, on the farm, where he worked during the summer and autumn, and then returned home and attended school during the winter. In the spring, he hired out with a neighbor for \$5 per month, where he remained till the next fall, attending the district school in the winter. He then went to York and drove team for Sultzbaugh & Quickle, drawing lumber, coal and iron, for which he received \$11 per month, being the highest wages paid at that time; as he was always at his post ready for duty, being active, quick and willing, he never lacked for employment and always commanded the highest wages: he followed this business till he was 21 years old, when he became infatuated with the Western fever, thinking that he could better his condition, and, true to his nature, he started for the State of Ohio, arriving at Versailles in April, 1856, at about 3 o'clock on a dark and foggy morning, and when the conductor called out "Versailles" he grasped his carpet-bag and made for the door, and when the train came to a halt he walked out on the platform of the car, and, thinking that he was at the station, made a leap for the platform of the depot, but, alas! he missed it and landed in the ditch, with his carpet-bag on his head and his legs driven into the mud up to his knees, murmuring to himself, "Is this Darke Co., and if so, where am I? and how will I get out alive?" However, he managed to find his way out and made for a hotel, which he found and went to bed, where he slept sweetly till about 8 o'clock in the morning, when he awoke, donned his clothing, ate his breakfast, paid his bill, placed his carpet-bag on his back and started on foot for his brother Henry, who resided about four and a half miles south, in Adams Township, where





he remained for three months; he worked for his brother at the carpenter's trade, after which he farmed Benjamin Bashore's farm on shares, receiving one-third of the grain. He only remained one season, when he engaged with George Hetzler to farm his land on the same terms for one season, and met with good success. On the 17th of October, 1858, he celebrated his marriage with Elizabeth Cable, daughter of John and Susana Cable; she is a native of Darke Co., Ohio, born on the 6th of October, 1841. He remained on the Hetzler farm for about five years, during which time Mr. Hetzler died, and at the sale of the personal property he purchased most of the stock and farm implements and moved on his little farm of 55 acres, in Sec. 36, Wayne Township, for which he paid \$860, and in a short time he purchased 48 acres which joined him, making in all 103 acres, which he improved, residing on the same till 1872. He then rented a farm of Levi Huddle, in the same township, containing between 500 and 600 acres, which he has under his management, and at present is the largest grain and stock raiser in the county; he now has ten head of horses and mules, forty head of cattle, one hundred head of sheep and fifty head of hogs; he grew over 3,000 bushels of small grain last year, and about 4,000 bushels of corn. In 1879, he purchased 55 acres more, for which he paid \$2,000; he now owns 158 acres, valued at \$7,900; he erected a frame barn, 48x78 feet, on his farm, at a cost of about \$1,000. Mr. Boyer commenced life with but little of this world's goods, but by hard labor and correct business habits has accumulated a handsome little fortune, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and industrious wife. When he married Miss Cable, her father gave her one horse, "Jack," which is still living, being 24 years old. Mr. Boyer has had his full share of township offices since his residence in the county; has served as Trustee of Wayne Township two years, Supervisor, School Director, and was a member of the School Board for a period of nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Boyer are members of the "River Brethren," a Baptist body. Ten children have been born to them, of whom nine are living, viz.: Ellen, John, Sarah, Milton, David, Maggie, Emma, Daniel, Mary.

THOMAS A. BURNS, attorney at law; Versailles, Ohio; is a native of Ohio, born in Champaign Co. on the 18th day of October, 1836; his father, H. Z. Burns, and his mother Anna, emigrated from Loudoun Co., Va., in 1830; they were well educated and sought no other fortune for themselves and children than education. His father died early in life, leaving the widow with the care of four small children. Thomas being the oldest boy, the care of the family fell heavily upon the mother and him; he struggled on through circumstances that were anything but genial to his aspiring nature; in the common schools he obtained the rudiments of an English education, and from his mother a little knowledge of German and Latin. Farming and teaching school were his occupations until the sound of the war trumpet in 1861; and on the 9th day of May, he with others was assigned to the 13th O. V. I. which regiment was then over-full, and they at once reenlisted in Co. A, 66th O. V. I., of fighting fame; having held the various non-commissioned offices, he was then commissioned First Lieutenant, and in a short time he was commissioned a Captain, and took command of Co. E, 194th O. V. I., where he served till he was mustered out with his regiment on the 4th day of November, 1865, having served four years six months and twenty-five days; he at once commenced the study of law with Hon. Charles Morris, of Troy, Ohio, and was admitted to the Bar March 8, 1868. On the 26th day of December, 1867, he celebrated his marriage with Miss R. L., daughter of Hon. George Anderson, of Piqua, Ohio, and in March, 1870, he moved to Versailles, Darke Co.; he has acquired a good practice in law; he has traveled throughout the United States, been a close observer of human nature, strictly temperate in all his habits, giving much study and attention to his professional and other scientific books, and has made the most of limited opportunities. A loving wife and four bright children make up his happy home at Versailles, Ohio.

JAMES R. CALDERWOOD, farmer, Sec. 33; P. O. Versailles, Ohio.



the following is a list of the names of the persons who have been  
admitted to the library since the last meeting of the board of trustees.  
The names are arranged in alphabetical order of the surnames.  
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the last meeting of the board of trustees are as follows: (The names  
are arranged in alphabetical order of the surnames.)

George Calderwood, the father of James R., was born in Huntingdon Co., Penn., on the 15th day of December, 1783; Margaret, his wife, was born in Adams Co., Penn., on the 28th day of May, 1792; they emigrated to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in the year 1818, remaining there about fourteen years, after which he moved to Darke Co.; this was in the spring (April), 1832; they drove through to Greenville, the distance being only thirty-five miles, but were three days in making the journey, as the roads were very heavy, making it almost an impossibility to travel; settled in Butler Township, where he remained until his death, which occurred on the 7th day of November, 1849. Margaret, his wife, died on the 12th day of October, 1874. James R., the subject of this sketch, was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, on the 6th day of October, 1821; came with his parents to Darke Co. when he was 10 years old; he assisted his father in clearing and cultivating the soil, and, when the opportunity presented itself, he would attend the district school, which at that time was not of a very high order, being held in an old log cabin, covered with clapboards, puncheon floor, split slabs for seats, writing desks, etc.; greased paper for window-lights, one end of the house being the fire-place; lived with his parents until he was about 21 years of age, when he commenced to learn the carpenter and millwright trade with Mr. Moses Harriman; worked at his trade for a period of about twenty-six years, and, at the same time, carried on the farm, occasionally working on the farm himself, his boys doing most of the work; would work hard all day at his trade; coming home late, he would go out on the farm and gather brush, piling it on log-heaps, after which he would burn them, working sometimes until a very late hour in the night; he bought a farm of 160 acres in Neave Township, in the year 1845, paying \$800 for the tract; moved on the farm, but remained only about one month, after which he sold out at a gain of about \$50; moved on his father's farm, which contained 160 acres, buying out the heirs, paying \$1,200; lived on and cultivated this farm for a period of about five years, after which he sold the farm for \$3,100, and bought the old Weaver farm, containing 100 acres, but could not get possession at the time, so he bought another farm of 70 acres, on which he moved, remaining about six months, after which he sold the farm at a gain of about \$50; he then moved on the old Weaver farm in the fall of 1854, where he remained until the year 1869, when he sold out, receiving \$60 per acre; this farm cost him, in the first place, only \$17 per acre; he had, however, made some improvements thereon, having built a house and barn, and cleared about twenty acres; in 1869, he bought the John Hughes farm, in Wayne Township, Sec. 23, paying \$7,400; he moved on the farm in the same year, where he has resided ever since. Mr. Calderwood has had his full share of township offices; served as Trustee for three years, School Director, Supervisor, etc.; is a firm Republican; his religion is to do right, and he aims to live in harmony with nature's laws, and might be called a child of nature; is kind, courteous and obliging, and has a host of friends. Was united in marriage to Miss Jemima Otwell, in Greenville, Ohio, on the 8th day of May, 1845; she was born in North Carolina, near the Gilbert Court House, on the 13th day of April, 1825; six children were the fruits of this union, of whom four are living, viz.: Clinton, was born on the 20th day of September, 1846; George, was born on the 11th day of September, 1849; Mary was born on the 25th day of January, 1853; Albertis, was born on the 4th day of March, 1855; Curtis, died on the 5th day of April, 1854; John, died on the 5th day of April, 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Calderwood have passed through the many struggles, trials and incidents so common to the old pioneers of the West; have, by their industry and strict temperate habits, combined with economy, accumulated enough of this world's goods to live at their ease the balance of their days while in earth-life.

AARON G. CARSON, farmer, Sec. 8; P. O. Versailles, Ohio. Aaron, the father of Aaron G., was born in Maine, about thirty miles from Augusta; Milly, his wife, whose maiden name was McDonald, was born in South Carolina, Edgefield District; they came to Ohio in 1830, locating in Darke Co., where they spent the





remainder of their days. Aaron G., the subject of this sketch, was born in Darke Co., Wayne Township, on the 27th of November, 1837; he lived with his parents till their death, assisting his father on the farm during the summer months and in the winter attended the district school, which was held in an old log cabin, with slab benches and puncheon floor; but by diligence, he obtained a good common-school education. On the 24th of November, 1859, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Mary E. Lyons; eight children have been born to this union, of whom five are living, viz., Millie C., Anna L., Aaron L., Mary Avis, Idona, William R. Mr. Carson has 95 acres in good cultivation, and has accumulated a considerable amount of property by hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife; in 1879, he made a visit to the East—Maine,—and he has traveled over sixteen different States. Mr. and Mrs. Carson are members of the Christian Church, and are living zealous and consistent Christians.

DAVID CHRISTIAN, farmer. Sec. 21; Versailles. Lewis Christian, the father of David, was born in Pennsylvania, in the year 1775, and emigrated to Ohio, Montgomery County, in or about the year 1800; he was married to Mary Laver, in Montgomery County, she was also born in Pennsylvania; they came to Darke County in 1809, residing in Adams Township until their death. David Christian, the subject of this sketch, was born in Darke Co., Adams Township, March 23, 1819; he lived with his parents till their death, being only 13 years old at that time, after which he lived with his brother till he was about 15 years old, working on the farm during summer, and attending school during the winter, where he obtained a fair common-school education; at 15 years of age, he went to live with his brother-in-law, remaining about two years, after which he went to Indiana, where he made the acquaintance of a young man by the name of John Collins, who was a brick-mason; Mr. Christian worked for and with him in various places, for about six months; he then went to work in a saw-mill fifteen miles from La Porte, where he remained a short time, then returning home to his brother-in-law's, having been gone altogether about twelve months; he cut and hauled a load of hoop-poles to Dayton, which he sold; he then hauled a load of freight, consisting of dry goods and groceries, through to Huntington; this was in the winter season, and, the ground being frozen, he was about two weeks making the trip; he then commenced farming, and worked at it for about two years, buying in the mean time a tract of land in Wayne Township, Sec., 21, containing 95 acres, paying \$3 per acre; it was all a dense forest. At the age of 22 years, Mr. Christian was united in marriage to Catherine Woods, in 1841, in Darke Co. He then erected a log cabin, and moved into it, and commenced clearing up a farm, and, with the help of his good wife, connected with industry and hard labor, is now reaping his reward in the possession of a handsome fortune. He now owns from 400 to 500 hundred acres, divided into four farms, all well improved; he has on his home place a good one and a half-story brick residence, with good cellar and all improvements. Mr. Christian is not a church member, but at the same time, is a good, honest man, and believes in living in harmony with all, and obeying the golden rule. When he commenced life, he did not have much of this world's goods, and, when he and his wife came to this place, there was no clearing it was all under heavy timber. He says they did not move, as they had nothing but one horse, a sled, maul and wedge, and an ax. Mr. and Mrs. Christian are the parents of fourteen children, of whom twelve are now living—Joseph, born in 1841; Henry, born in 1842; Samuel, born in 1844; Caroline, born in 1847; Catherine, born in 1849; Elizabeth, born in 1852; Lewis, born in 1854; Lavina, born in 1856; Minerva, born in 1858; Lydia, born in 1860; David, born in 1862; Hannah E., born in 1865.

PROSPER DABE, grain-merchant and file-manufacturer, Versailles. Peter H., the father of Prosper, was a native of Belgium, born in 1793; he married Jane R. Fumer, who was born in France in 1796; they emigrated to America in 1840, landing in the city of New York, thence to Buffalo, from there to Canton, Stark Co., Ohio, where they remained two years, after which they came to Darke





Co., locating near Versailles, where they spent the remainder of their days; he departed this life in 1833. and his wife in 1869. Prosper, the subject of this sketch, was born in France, on the 12th day of August, 1833; he, with his parents, came to Darke Co., in 1847, locating in Patterson Township, where he received his education in the common schools. He celebrated his marriage on the 2d of October, 1856, with Miss Adaline Trion, who was born in France in 1840; in 1869, he moved to Versailles, where he has resided ever since; he engaged in the manufacture of tile, which business he still carries on, and, in 1879, he added the grain business, operating the Commercial Elevator—he handled, last year, about 22,000 bushels of wheat, 10,000 bushels of oats, and about 2,000 bushels of corn, and, at present, is prepared to handle all kinds of grain. Mr. Dabe has had his full share of township offices since his residence in the county—served as Trustee of Patterson two years, Assessor one year, Treasurer two years, and Trustee of Wayne two years. Mr. and Mrs. Dabe are active workers in the cause of religion, being members of the Christian Church. They are the parents of fourteen children, of whom twelve are living, viz., Peter, Lewis, Edmond, Jennie M., Charles, Anna, Mary, Lawrence, Harry, Clara, Franklin and Lucy. Mr. Dabe has accumulated a considerable amount of property by his hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and industrious wife.

A. M. DUNKEL, meat market and butcher, Versailles; is a son of David and Anna Dunkel, and was born in Cumberland Co., Penn., on the 28th of August, 1844. David, his father, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Lancaster County in 1803; he was united in marriage with Anna Frealich in 1832; she is a native of the same State and county, born in 1814; they came to Ohio in 1851, locating in Springfield, Clark Co., where he carried on a butcher-shop for several years, when he sold out and moved to Dayton, Ohio, where he kept a boarding-house; in 1870, he removed to Darke County, locating in Versailles, where he resides at present; they are the parents of ten children, seven of whom are living, viz., Joseph, David, John, Simon, Aaron M., Benjamin, Anna; Mr. Dunkel is an upright and honest man, a fearless and uncompromising patriot, giving five of his sons to the service of his country during the great rebellion, four of whom returned safe at its close, viz., Joseph, David, Aaron M. and Simon; Mr. Dunkel's father served as a private soldier in the Revolutionary war, and three of David's brothers served in the War of 1812, viz., John, George, Paul. Aaron M., the subject of this sketch, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Cumberland County on the 28th day of August, 1844; came to Ohio with his parents when he was 7 years old; he received a good common-school education; he celebrated his marriage in Dayton, Ohio, on the 3d of December, 1867, with Miss Frances A. Pottle, who was born on the 6th of January, 1848; five children have been born of this union, of whom four are living, viz., D. W. Dunkel, F. J. Dunkel, A. J. E. Dunkel, M. E. Dunkel. He came to Versailles in 1870, and is now the leading butcher in the town, having the most complete meat market in Versailles.

HORATIO DYE, farmer, Sec. 12; P. O. Versailles. F. L. Dye, the father of Horatio, was born in Miami Co., Ohio, in the year 1808; Sarah Lafevere, his wife, was born in Miami Co., Ohio, in the year 1810; he came to Darke Co. in the year 1855, where he continued to reside till the death of his wife, which occurred in September, 1866, after which he sold out and moved to Sydney, Ohio, where he married Ann Easty in the year 1868, and at present resides there. Horatio, the subject of this sketch, was born in Miami Co., Ohio, on the 7th day of April, 1834; lived with his parents till he was 23 years old, working on the farm during the summer season and attending the district school in the winter; obtained a good common-school education. When he was about 23 years old, he bought a farm of 82 acres in the same county, and engaged in the cultivation of the soil on his own responsibility, and on the 2d day of December, 1858, was united in marriage to Miss Lucinda Perry, in Miami Co.; she was born in Miami Co. on the 16th day of





January, 1835; he remained on his farm about eight years, meeting with good success, after which he traded his farm for the Zolinger farm, consisting of 72 acres in Miami Co., two miles west of Piqua, Ohio, on the Clayton pike; remained for two years, after which he sold out for \$5,000; this was the most successful trade of his life; he bought 74 acres in the same county, northeast of Tippecanoe, where he moved, remaining there for four years; sold out for \$4,600, and moved to Versailles, Ohio, and engaged in the tanning business for a period of three years, losing about \$1,800; he then traded the tanyard for a farm of 82 acres, in Wayne Township, Sec. 12, where he has resided ever since. Mr. Dye has, in no sense of the term, been an office-seeker, yet he has had his full share of township offices; was elected to the office of Supervisor four or five times; School Director for three years; he has taken a very active part in religion, being a member of the Presbyterian Church for a period of twenty-three years; he and his good and amiable wife have been active members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church for about four years, living devoted and consistent Christians; he has held very important offices in the church; while in Piqua he was elected Elder in the First Presbyterian Church, serving three years; was elected President of the "Union Sabbath School Convention" of Darke Co. for one year, and is at present holding the office of Elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; Mr. Dye is strictly a temperate man; he neither chews nor smokes tobacco; he has, by the help of his industrious wife, accumulated a considerable amount of property; they have no children. Amoses Perry, the father of Lucinda, was born in South Carolina in the year 1781; emigrated to Miami Co., Ohio, when he was 21 years old, where he resided until his death, which occurred in the year 1860; Rachel Long, his wife, was born in Kentucky in the year 1795; she came with her parents to Miami Co., Ohio, when she was about 1 year old; she departed this life in the fall of 1865; Mr. Perry followed school teaching, and was elected to the State Legislature in the year 1833; Lucinda is an active worker in the cause of religion, as well as a strong advocate of temperance; also a life member of the American Bible Society.

JOHN E. FACKLER, physician and surgeon, Versailles, Ohio. George F., the father of John E., was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Lancaster Co. in 1800; he emigrated to Ohio, locating in Miami Co. in 1818; removed to Montgomery Co. where he resided till his death, which occurred in 1864; he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Christian in 1825; she was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Lancaster Co. in 1803; she came to Ohio in 1817, locating in Montgomery Co. John E., the subject of this sketch, is a native of Ohio, born in Miami Co. on the 30th of September, 1836; he lived with his parents till he was 22 years of age, assisting his father on the farm during the summer, and attending school during the winter, thereby obtaining a good common-school education; he then taught school during the winter and farmed in the summer; at the age of 22, he entered the office of Dr. G. V. Dorsey and commenced the study of medicine, and in 1861 he graduated at the Ohio Medical College; he then opened an office in El Dorado, Preble Co., but only remained there a few months, when he went to Webster, Darke Co., where he remained until 1869, when he removed to Dayton, Ohio, remaining till 1870, after which he removed to Versailles, Ohio, where he now resides, having a large and lucrative practice. He celebrated his first marriage with B. Lizzie Rogers in 1866, in Miami Co.; two children were born to this union, viz.: Susan Edith, born in 1867; Georgiana Henriette, born in 1868. On the 20th of June, 1870, the messenger of death entered this peaceful and interesting little family, removing from earth to heaven Lizzie, his wife, who was a good wife and a loving mother; in 1871, he celebrated his second marriage, with Pernina Berry, in Greenville, Ohio; three children have been born to them, viz.: Volney N., born in 1872; Clement F., in 1874; Jane C., in 1877. The Doctor is strictly temperate in all his habits; the writer in looking over his diary came across the following language: "Feb. 12, 1863. From this day forth and forever, I will not smoke nor use tobacco in any form." "Oct. 26, 1864. This evening I cast my eyes on the top of this page; I now have





to remark that it was almost one year subsequent to the estate that I succeeded in and entirely overcame the habit of using tobacco."

GEORGE E. FLETCHER, farmer, Sec. 21 ; P. O. Versailles. John Fletcher, the father of George E., was born in Pennsylvania in the year 1735 ; Catharine, his wife, was born in Virginia ; he emigrated to Greene Co., Ohio, in the year 1835, remaining there but a short time, after which he bought a farm of 160 acres in Darke Co., Ohio. Wayne Township, remaining there till his death, which occurred in the year 1840 ; Catharine, his wife, died in Virginia in the year 1826. George E., the subject of this sketch, was born in Virginia in Henrico Co., on the 18th day of October, 1818 ; he came with his grandfather to Ohio in the year 1833, being only 15 years old ; he lived with his grandparents, working on the farm and attending school during the winter, obtaining a good common-school education ; he worked for his grandparents till he was 25 years old, after which he married Miss Margret Kinney, Nov. 24, 1842, in Greene Co., Ohio ; he rented a farm and commenced life on his own responsibility ; this farm was in Greene Co. ; he remained there for a period of about two years, meeting with good success, after which he moved to Darke Co., on the banks of the Stillwater, near Webster, where he remained about nineteen months, moving on the Huddle farm, one-half mile north-west of Webster, where he remained for a period of six years, paying \$2.50 per acre rent ; he then bought 95 acres in Wayne Township, Sec. 21, where he has continued to reside ever since ; when he came, there were 20 acres cleared ; Mr. Fletcher commenced life with but little of this world's goods, but by hard labor, frugality, temperate habits and the assistance of his good wife, has accumulated a considerable amount of property, and is now enjoying the comforts of his earnings ; Mr. Fletcher was left an orphan, hence has passed through the trials and hardships so common to the orphan ; he has held the office of Township Trustee one year, School Director and Supervisor one year. Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher are members of the German Reformed Church, devoted and consistent Christians, being highly respected by those who know them ; nine children were the fruits of this union, of which four are living, viz.: Mary A., born Oct. 10, 1844 ; Martha, Nov. 6, 1848 ; Peter F., Aug. 27, 1853 ; Alivilda, Sept. 30, 1855.

J. P. GORDON, physician and surgeon, Versailles. The subject of this sketch is a native of Ohio, born in Warren, Trumbull Co., on the 1st day of April, 1822 ; is of Scotch-Irish parentage on the paternal side, and French on the maternal side ; his grandfather Gordon was one of the pioneers of the Northwestern Territory, settling in what is known as Mahoning Co. in 1792 and in 1812, he and the father of J. P. Gordon were the only ones out of nineteen men that could be spared from Ashtabula Co., where he had removed, to go as volunteers in defense of the country. J. P. was raised in the lap of adversity, and from 16 years of age, when he went to Marion Co., he had to shift for himself ; sometimes the cold winds of adversity would almost chill him, and bend him to the earth, but on the passing away of the storm he would take courage and try to forget the past ; he acquired such an education as the common schools afforded ; at the time graduating from the same cabin, and in the same class with the Rev. S. P. Carleton, the great linguist—said to be—in Mr. Gordon's own words, speaking of this period, "We commenced at crucifix and ended at stofix and bramble, each term, with an occasional touch of Daboll and Murray, and every Saturday special reading from the 'American Preceptor.'" In 1842, he went to Delaware, Ohio, where he attended the academy, and the Ohio Wesleyan University, where he remained twenty months, paying his tuition by cutting wood Saturdays, and hunting coons at night, which was fine sport, yet a slow way to obtain tuition money ; he then went to what is now known as Spring Valley, Greene Co., Ohio, with George Barrett, father of the Hon. J. M. Barrett, now of that place, and for six years he had no fixed home ; studied medicine the best he could till 1847 ; he taught school during the winter, and shoved the trowel in the summer, and at very low wages—taught seventy-two days for a quarter, and boarded around for \$12 per month ; finished the study of





medicine with Drs. Hams and Hartman, of Spring Valley, and received his license as a practicing physician from the County Medical Society in 1849. On the 13th day of April, 1848, he celebrated his marriage with Elizabeth Herr, of Greene Co., moved to Webster, Darke Co., Ohio, Feb. 2, 1852, and commenced the practice of medicine, where he had every old woman, and every old granny of a man that ever heard tell of Sam Thompson or Iobelia, as competitors, and as there was no prospect of Webster becoming a city for some time, he pulled up stakes, and anchored at his present place of business in a cabin Jan. 1, 1857, on the lot formerly owned by the "Hardshell Baptist," the third church built in the county; the corner-stone still remains as a landmark, on which he in his pious moments sits in silent meditation for better or for worse, *cracking hickory nuts*. The Doctor has been married twice; his second marriage was celebrated on the 5th of January, 1876, with Miss Vina Jester, of Miami Co., Ohio. The Doctor has practiced medicine for thirty years, and has accumulated some property, but is happy in the thought that he has never squeezed the last dollar out of the poor; has gone many miles through the storm and mud for which he has not received his reward unless it be in gratitude.

JOHN HESS, Agent C. C. & I. R. R., and Manager of Western Union Telegraph Company, Versailles, Ohio. Mathias, the father of John, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Fayette Co. in about 1818. Hesther, his wife, whose maiden name was Stevenson, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Fayette Co. in about 1828; they reside near Brownsville, Penn., and are the parents of fourteen children, of whom thirteen are living, viz., Elizabeth, William, John, Nancy J., Rosanah, Enoch, Caroline, Aaron, Freeman, Eliza, George, Mary and Isabell. John, the subject of this memoir, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Fayette Co. on the 12th of November, 1848; lived at home till he was 21 years old, assisting his father in the cultivation of the soil during the summer, and attending the district school in the winter months, thereby obtaining a good common-school education. In February, 1869, he came to Darke Co., Ohio, locating in Greenville, where he obtained a position as clerk in the post office, where he remained about sixteen months, after which he entered the office of the D. & U. R. R., at Union City, Ind., with R. T. Johnson, but only remained there three months, when he obtained a position as night-operator in Versailles, Ohio, which office he filled for two and a half months, when he was appointed ticket and freight agent, also manager of the Western Union Telegraph, which gave him control of the station. Mr. Hess is a young man, and is well qualified for the position he fills, and is held in high esteem by the officials of the C. C. & I. Ry. Co. He celebrated his marriage on the 14th of October, 1873, with Miss Laura A. Wentworth, daughter of Egbert N. and Cynthia A. Wentworth, who was born in Darke Co. March 5, 1854. Three children have been born to this union, viz.: Emma Pearle, born Aug. 3, 1874; Harry Gordon, Nov. 15, 1875; Bessie L., Jan. 5, 1880.

DANIEL HOLE, farmer; P. O. Versailles. William, the father of Daniel, was a native of Virginia, born on the 28th of April, 1759; he married Miss Ruth Crane, who was born in New Jersey on the 23d of March, 1767; they emigrated to Kentucky in 1787, locating near Lexington, Fayette County, traveling the entire distance from New Jersey on horseback; while in Kentucky, they were annoyed a great deal by the Indians, and upon one occasion Mr. Hole came very near having his scalp taken by them; while out one day, gathering wild plums, he was attacked by one of the "redskins," who shot at him, giving him a flesh wound in the arm, and as Mr. Hole did not have any firearms with him, he concluded it would be better for him to make his way back to the fort; so, dropping his basket of plums, he started at lightning speed through the woods, the Indian pursuing him with tomahawk upraised ready to fell him whenever the opportunity presented itself; but William ran for life, making his way to the fort in safety, while the Indian skulked off in dismay to think that the "pale-face" could outwind him; Mr. Hole resided in Kentucky for about two years, after which he





removed to Ft. Washington, now Cincinnati, Ohio, where he obtained a lot by selling and improving the same, where he resided for a period of about five years, when he removed to Montgomery County, locating one mile east of the present Miamisburg, which at that time was a trading-post or station; he remained there till his death, which occurred on the 25th of February, 1830; Ruth, his wife, departed this life in Fountain City, Ind., in the year 1852, at the advanced age of 85. Daniel, the subject of this memoir, is a native of Ohio, born in Montgomery County on the 11th of December, 1805; lived with his parents till he was 22 years of age, assisting his father in the great task of clearing and opening up a farm; he did not have the advantage of schools, as in those days there was not even a subscription school in the whole county. On the 24th of July, 1827, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Hannah Bartlett, and during the fall of the same year they moved on his father's farm, their household furniture consisting of two beds, one set of pot-metal knives and forks, one stew-kettle and skillet, one set cups and saucers, and one big iron kettle, using a box for a table; he resided on his father's farm for about three years, after which he moved to Miami County, locating near Clayton in an old log cabin which was situated in the woods; he now commenced the herculean task of clearing and opening up a farm; he only remained there about eighteen months, when he removed to Darke County, locating in Wayne Township, Sec. 24, where he has resided ever since; when he moved to his present place of residence, he found it all under heavy timber; this was in 1831; he erected a cabin in the woods, and began the task of opening up a farm; the tract of land consisted of 80 acres, for which he paid \$1.25 per acre. Mr. Hole has, with the help of his good and industrious wife, accumulated a considerable amount of property; they hold to the Universalist faith, knowing that God is a God of love, and will finally gather all his children home, not to a sectarian heaven, but a heaven for all; nine children have been born to them, of whom six are living, viz.: Huldah, born May 17, 1828; David, June 11, 1829; Jay, Oct. 23, 1832; Catharine, June 11, 1838; John B., Feb. 25, 1842; Mary E., Sept. 9, 1844. Mrs. Hole was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, one mile west of Miamisburg, on the 23d of November, 1810.

L. C. KLIPSTINE, teacher, Sec. 32; P. O. Webster. William, his father, is a native Prussian, born near Leipsic in 1828; he came to America with his parents when he was about 6 years old, landing in New York, and in 1835 he came to Darke County, locating in Wayne Township, near Webster, Sec. 29, where he has resided ever since. In 1849 he, with several others, crossed the Plains to California in search of gold, being six months in crossing; he remained there about thirteen months, meeting with fair success, after which he returned by the Isthmus of Panama. He married Miss L. Haack, who is a native of Prussia; they are the parents of six children, viz., John, William, Amos, Callie, Clara and Lewis C. The subject of this sketch was born in Darke County on the 6th of May, 1854; he spent his boyhood days on the farm, assisting his father in the cultivation of the soil; he received his preparatory education in the district schools, after which he attended the Versailles High School, where he received a good academic education. On the 26th of September, 1878, he celebrated his marriage with Rosa B. Kinney, daughter of Robert M. and Mary Kinney; she was born on the 17th of August, 1854; after his marriage, he moved on his farm, where he had erected a beautiful two-story brick house. Mr. Klipstine taught his first school when he was only 16 years old, in Shelby County, in the swamps, the schoolhouse being nearly surrounded by water; he labored faithfully for six months, giving universal satisfaction, and at the close of the term the patrons insisted that he should continue, but on account of the gloomy surroundings, he declined their liberal offer; he has taught sixty months altogether, the field of labor being the counties of Shelby, Miami and Darke, and at present is teaching the Webster school; he teaches during the winter and farms in the summer; is a member of the Lutheran Church, his wife being a member of the German Reform Church; they have a





host of friends and are held in high esteem by all who know them; is strictly temperate in all his habits. Mr. Klipstine has traveled over nine different States and a part of Canada; he has also visited all the largest cities in the United States.

**FRANCIS KUSNICK**, banker, druggist and lumber dealer, Versailles, Ohio: was born in Porentry, Switzerland, Dec. 16, 1837; left his native country when but 20 years of age and came to America, an entire stranger, in a strange, yet hospitable land; had but little of this world's goods, but being in possession of a classical education and an indomitable will to fight the battles of this life manly, has by his industry and strict temperance habits accumulated a large fortune; Mr. Kusnick first located in Chicago, Ill., where he practiced medicine for two years, after which he moved to Versailles, in the spring of 1861, where he has continued to reside ever since; practiced medicine here for seven years with good success; giving up the practice of medicine he engaged in the drug business and lumber trade, to which he added an exchange bank, doing a business of about \$300,000 a year. Was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Royon, in Russia, Shelby Co., Ohio, in the year 1861; seven children were the fruits of this union, viz.: Leopold F., born Aug. 10, 1862; Louis E., Oct. 1, 1863; Frank J., Feb. 11, 1865; Mary C. (deceased), Feb. 7, 1870; Adolphine F., Sept. 30, 1872; Sidonie J., Sept. 24, 1874; Joseph J., June 11, 1878; Mr. Kusnick takes a very active part in religion, being one of the leading members of the Roman Catholic Church, to whom all look for advice; contributes largely to charitable institutions, and shows his sympathy to the poor by donating liberally; served as Township Treasurer for several terms.

**LAWRENCE L. LEHMAN**, teacher, Versailles, Ohio. Jacob, his father, is a native of Ohio, born in Covington, Miami Co., on the 1st of January, 1825; he received a good common-school education; celebrated his marriage with Jemima Sullenberger, on the 25th day of November, 1851; he came to Darke Co. in 1856, and at present resides in Versailles; they are the parents of thirteen children, of whom nine are living, viz., Maggie A., Eugene, Columbus, Oliver H., Luella, Morrie, Addie L., Mary and Lawrence L., the subject of our sketch, who was born in Miami Co., Ohio, in 1852; received his preparatory education in the common schools, after which he entered the Ohio Central Normal School, in Worthington, Ohio, from which he graduated in 1874, receiving a good academic education; he taught school when he was only 16 years old, thereby helping to support the family, it being very large; he is at present reading law with T. A. Burns, of Versailles.

**WASHINGTON LONG**; farmer, Sec. 17; P. O. Versailles. Stephen Long, the father of Washington, was born in Kentucky, on the 8th day of August, 1798, and emigrated to Miami Co., Ohio, in the year 1806, where he farmed for a period of about twenty-eight years; moved to Darke Co., Wayne Township, Sec. 17, where he resided till his death, which occurred on the 29th day of December, 1854. Sarah, his wife, died on the 27th day of December, 1871, on the old home farm. Washington Long, the subject of this sketch, was born in Miami Co., Ohio, on the 15th day of October, 1823; came with his parents to Darke Co. in the year 1834, where he has continued to reside ever since; he worked on the farm till he arrived at the years of his majority; however, in the mean time attending the district school, obtaining a good common-school education; went before the Board of Examiners, obtained a certificate, and taught his first school when only 22 years of age, now thirty-four years ago, receiving for his labor the enormous salary of \$10 per month; continued to teach during the winter months, working on the farm in the summer, for a period of about eleven years, with good success, giving entire satisfaction wherever he taught. Mr. Long is quite an active worker in the cause of religion and temperance, being a member of the Christian Church for a period of about twenty years; his religious impressions were mainly due to his mother, who was a pious, thrifty and hard-working woman, given to saving, and devoted to her family. His father was a minister of the Gospel, being a regular ordained





minister of the Christian Church. Versailles, at that time, contained only about three families; the settlement was then called Jacksonville. Mr. Long is not in any sense of the term an office-seeker, yet he has held various offices much of the time during his residence in Darke Co., viz. Township Trustee, Assessor, and in the fall of 1879, was a candidate on the Democratic ticket for Representative of the Twelfth Congressional District to the State Legislature, and was elected by an overwhelming majority; has many warm friends, and is beloved by all who know him; has by his industry, and the help of his good and amiable wife, accumulated a considerable amount of property. Mr. Long has been married twice; first, to Miss Susan M. Lyons, on the 1st day of May, 1862; one child was born to them, viz. Joseph N., born on the 19th day of December, 1862; Susan M. Long departed this life on the 27th day of December, 1862. After a period of four years, he married Miss Polly Brewer, the nuptials being celebrated on the 16th day of October, 1866; she was born in Darke Co., Ohio, on the 6th day of December, 1832. Elizabeth Brewer, her mother, was born on the 24th day of August, 1806; she departed this life on the 24th day of July, 1864; two children were the result of his second marriage, viz.: Ellen J. was born on the 23d day of July, 1867; the other was not named—died in infancy. When Mr. Long came to Wayne Township, there were but three families living in Jacksonville, now Versailles, there being only about ten acres of cleared land on the tract; he now has 200 acres, valued at \$50 per acre.

LEONARD MARKER, furniture dealer and undertaker, Versailles. Raymon J., the father of Leonard, was a native of Ohio, born in Montgomery Co. on the 29th of August, 1824. He was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Backman, in Dayton, Ohio, in April, 1845; in 1850, he with his little family, moved to Darke Co., locating on the west bank of Swamp Creek, opposite Bower's old mill, where he resided till his death, which occurred in 1855, being only 31 years old: his wife preceded him about ten months, being only 29 years of age: Mr. Marker, although a young man when he died, had accumulated considerable amount of property, and was known as being strictly honest, industrious and a square-dealing citizen, filling several offices of trust, being Justice of the Peace of the township in which he lived; he was one of a little band of about twenty who organized Versailles Lodge, No. 286, I. O. O. F., being a charter member and one of the principal officers of the lodge when he died; he was buried by the order in the beautiful little cemetery just south of Brock, in this county, where a handsome monument marks the resting-place of himself and wife; he sank peacefully to rest beloved and honored by all who knew him. Leonard, the subject of this sketch, is a native of Ohio, born in Montgomery Co. on the 9th of June, 1846, and at the age of 4 years was taken with his parents to Darke Co., and at the age of 9 he, with two brothers and a sister, all younger than himself, were left orphans, thrust upon the cold charities of the world; but here the fraternity which had watched over and cared for their father was at hand, and good homes were provided for them all, and Leonard was taken by an uncle to Montgomery Co., with whom he lived until he was 19 years old, when he commenced the furniture trade in Versailles, Ohio, as an apprentice boy, and at the age of 21, in 1868, launched out in the furniture and undertaking business on his own resources; for several years adversity stared him in the face, but with an indomitable will and that stern, "never give up" which characterizes him, he pressed on and surmounted many difficulties, and is now doing a good, lucrative business; in connection with his increasing furniture trade, he has a fine hearse, and, with all the modern appliances he is continually coming in possession of for the taking care and putting away the dead, he is becoming the leading undertaker of northern Darke Co.; he is comfortably located in his new and commodious rooms on East Main street; in the spring of 1869, he celebrated his marriage with Miss E. Gertie Reed, daughter of James H. Reed, of Versailles; they have a family of three children, viz., Eugenie Grace, James Reed, Maud. Mr. Marker has filled several offices of trust in his





community; he is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, also of Versailles Lodge No. 286, I. O. O. F., of which his father was a charter member; he has taken all the higher degrees of the encampment, and has several times filled the honorable office of the D. D. Grand Patriarch of the Encampment.

**MARTIN MARKER**, farmer and stock-raiser: Sec. 13; P. O. Versailles, Ohio. George, his father, was a native of Maryland, born in Frederick Co., on the 19th of June, 1782; he emigrated to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1823, where he resided till his death, which occurred on the 29th of November, 1850. Margaret, his wife, died in Preble Co., Ohio, at the advanced age of 84 years. Martin, the subject of this sketch, is one of the old settlers of Darke Co., being a native of Maryland, born in Frederick Co., on the 15th of June, 1815; came with his parents to Montgomery Co., Ohio, when he was about 7 years old, where he spent his boyhood days on his father's farm; he received his education in the subscription schools of Montgomery Co. On the 30th of May, 1837, he celebrated his marriage, in Montgomery Co., with Margaret Weaver, who is a native of Ohio, born in Montgomery Co., on the 18th of January, 1818; shortly after his marriage, he rented a farm, on which he remained about two years, when he took a lease in Butler Township, Darke Co., but only remained six months, when he moved on a tract of land in York Township, consisting of 94 acres, which his father-in-law gave him in lieu of \$100; he erected a log cabin and began the laborious task of opening up a farm; he cleared and put under cultivation about 40 acres. He traded his farm for a saw and flouring mill, known as the "John Hole Mill," which he operated about ten years, but, accidentally, was forced into a law-suit in which he lost almost the entire property. He then leased 70 acres in York Township for three years, and, in a short time, he purchased the tract for \$600, paying \$10 down, which was every cent that he possessed; but, at the expiration of the three years, he had paid out. He then purchased 80 acres more, paying \$400, and, in a few years, he erected a brick house and cleared 60 acres. In 1850 he sold out to his brother Raymond for \$1,700; he then purchased 164 acres, where he now resides. In 1863, he sold out, and purchased 240 acres in Cedar Co., Iowa, where he moved, and, in a short time, he added 280 acres more, making in all 520 acres, 120 of which was timber land. In 1866, he sold the entire body at a gain of nearly \$6,000; he then removed to Darke Co., on the old farm, the party failing to pay for it, where he has continued to reside ever since; he erected a bank-barn, 70x40 feet, at a cost of \$2,500, also a very large two-story brick house, and raised an orchard of 300 bearing fruit-trees; the farm contains 164 acres, valued at \$16,000. He has given his children, in lands and money, about \$11,000, all of which he and his good and amiable wife have accumulated by their hard labor, having passed through the many struggles, trials and dangers so common to the pioneer of the West. They have been members of the Lutheran Church for upward of forty-five years. Mr. Marker has had his full share of township offices since his residence in the county, viz.: In 1851, he was elected District Assessor, he platted and appraised the lands in five townships, viz. Wayne, Richland, York, Wabash and Patterson, which he performed in 142 days, receiving a compensation of \$204; his work was received with universal satisfaction by the people; he is also known as the best and most successful and pioneer in the county. He relates many thrilling incidents of his early life in Darke Co., which the writer would have been pleased to mention, but, for the want of space, had to omit. Margaret, his wife, should have special mention for her heroic deeds, as she has shared the storms as well as the calms, the joys as well as the sorrows; she is the mother of eleven children, of whom nine are living, viz.: Lovina S., born Feb. 12, 1833; Martin V., June 27, 1841; Mary, March 27, 1843; Emanuel, Sept. 12, 1845; Martha J., May 25, 1851; Lucinda, and Malinda (twins), March 12, 1855; Josiah, March 28, 1858; Amanda, Nov. 9, 1872.

**WILLIAM H. MURPHY**, banker and lumber dealer, of the firm of Kussner, Murphy & Co., Versailles, Ohio; was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, on the 11th





day of September, 1818 ; he lived with his grandmother until her death, which occurred in the year 1831 : worked on the farm by the month and day for different persons, performing all kinds of labor until he was about 17 years old, when he commenced to learn the carpenter's trade, continuing at the same for a period of about eight years, meeting with good success, after which he sold out, and engaged in farming till the year 1862, when he sold his farm, and moved to Covington, Ohio, and engaged in the grocery and provision trade, which he followed for about one year ; he then removed to Wayne Township, where he purchased a farm, in Sec. 19, near the corporation of Versailles ; farmed, and carried on the hardware business in Versailles ; sold his farm and continued the hardware business for a period of about six years, with fair success ; sold out his store and connected himself with the bank on the 1st of January, 1878, with Francis Kusnick ; since having added the lumber business—which is the only lumber-yard in Versailles ; Mr. Murphy was left an orphan, being thrust out in the cold world to fight the battles of life alone, which he has braved through with unflinching nerve, gaining the victory, and is now reaping the reward of a handsome fortune, which he has accumulated by his own hard labor ; he obtained a good common-school education. He has in no sense of the word been a political aspirant, although he has had his full share of township offices ; while living in Miami Co., he served one term as Justice of the Peace ; also served as Township Trustee two years ; and in Wayne Township, where he now resides, has held the office of Justice of the Peace for a period of nine years, and is now serving his fourth term ; and two years as Township Trustee, and Township Treasurer one year ; he is a live, energetic, thorough business man, and is beloved by all who know him. The Squire has passed the many struggles, incidents and dangers so common to the early pioneers of the great West, and is to-day hardy and robust at the ripe old age of 62 ; was an active member of the Christian Church at the breaking out of the great rebellion, when he withdrew from the church. Was united in marriage to Miss Mary Sipe on the 7th day of January, 1838 ; thirteen children were the fruits of this union, viz.: Catharine, born Oct. 3, 1838 ; Leander, March 12, 1840 ; Sarah, April 19, 1841 ; Simon, Sept. 15, 1842 ; Angeline, April 1, 1844 ; John, May 10, 1845 ; William H., June 19, 1847 ; Mary M., Nov. 20, 1849 ; Ellen, Aug. 4, 1851 ; Esther, March 27, 1853 ; Elizabeth, Sept. 26, 1855 ; Susan, Aug. 21, 1857 ; Joseph, Aug. 6, 1860. Mary, his wife, died Sept. 30, 1862 ; was united in marriage to Mrs. Mary Arnold (whose maiden name was Thompson), on the 8th day of February, 1864 ; she was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, on the 8th day of July, 1823. Leander, his eldest son, who lived four miles southeast of Columbia City, Ind., went to see a neighbor, on some business, who lived about three-quarters of a mile off, and has never been heard of since : this was on the night of the 4th of December, 1866 ; it seems that he had some difficulty with the gentleman, the facts of which could not be obtained ; it is supposed that he was murdered ; his father received a letter from him on the same day, stating that he was well, and getting along very well, and, in three or four days after, Mr. Murphy received a letter from Leander's cousin, conveying the sad news that his son had very suddenly disappeared, and could not be found ; he left all his effects at home, or the place where he was working.

WILLIAM H. RIKE, physician, Versailles. Henry, his father, was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1822 ; he married Rebecca Dowler, who was born in Miami Co., Ohio, in 1824. William H., the subject of this sketch, was born in Miami Co., Ohio, on a farm, Dec. 3, 1850 ; he assisted his father on the farm during the summer months, and attended the district school in the winter, obtaining a good common-school education, and at the age of 19 he entered the Piqua school, where he finished his literary education ; he then taught school for a period of four years, in the mean time studying medicine under the instructions of Dr. J. Harrison, of Covington, Ohio ; he graduated at the Ohio Medical College, March, 2, 1876, and immediately thereafter, took up his residence in Versailles, for





the purpose of following his profession ; he now has a good, lucrative practice. He celebrated his marriage, in 1876, with Emma V. Fetter, in Miami Co., Ohio, who was born Sept. 9. 1851 ; one child has been born to this union, viz., Venus Blanche, born August 15, 1878.

**ADOLPH SEIBT**, merchant. Webster. F. T. Seibt, the father of Adolph, was born in Bautzen, Saxony, Germany, in the year 1804 ; he emigrated to America, landing in New York, in the year 1830 ; went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and enlisted in a company of traders, known as the "Hudson Bay Company," whose business was to obtain furs from the Indians ; served about eighteen months ; this was in the year 1832. Mr. Seibt, while a single man, and after he was mustered out of the company, traveled through the country fixing watches and clocks, and it was while he was engaged in this business, that he met Miss Erdmute Schmidt, at a farmer's house ; it was then that the law of affinity asserted her divine right, and they were united in marriage in a short time : he moved to Darke Co., Ohio, where Webster now stands, but at that time a wilderness ; this was in the year 1836 ; erected a storeroom in the course of time, and engaged in the dry-goods business, etc., which he followed till his death, which occurred on the 14th day of October, 1874 ; was married in the year 1836. Mr. Seibt was Postmaster in Webster for a period of twenty years. Adolph, the subject of this sketch, was born in Webster, on the 18th day of August, 1847 ; he lived with his parents, working on the farm during the summer season, and attended the district school in the winter months, till he was about 20 years old, when he attended the Commercial College of Dayton, Ohio, for three months. Mr. Seibt has made one trip to Germany, remaining two years, during which time he attended the grammar school of the city of Bautzen, obtaining a good education ; returned home, and at the death of his father, he took charge of the store, and stocked it throughout with an entire new stock, and commenced business on his own responsibility, where he has continued to operate ever since, with a full line of dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, etc. ; was united in marriage to Miss Maggie E. Battie, in Darke Co., Ohio, on the 25th day of May, 1871 ; she was born in Darke Co. on the 20th day of October, 1844 ; they have had five children, viz.: Christiana, born March 17, 1872 ; Loranda, Oct. 25, 1874 ; Ida, Aug. 6, 1878 ; Willie F., Aug. 10, 1879. Mr. Seibt has a great many friends, and is beloved by all who know him ; his mother, Christiana, was born in Bautzen, Saxony, Germany, on the 24th day of December 1810 ; she lives with her son, Adolph ; is 69 years old, and is enjoying good health.

**JOHN S. SIMON**, merchant, Versailles. George S. Simon, the father of John S., came to this country at a very early day, and settled at Versailles in the year 1839, where he has continued to reside ever since. John S., the subject of this sketch, was born in Versailles, Ohio, July 27, 1847 ; assisted his father in the store when but a very small boy, in fact, was brought up behind the counter, attended the village school during the winter season, in which he obtained a good common-school education ; clerked for his father in the store for seventeen years, applying himself very closely to business. After this the entire stock was transferred to him, when he commenced business for himself, continuing up to the present time, and he has, by his strictly temperate habits and industry, accumulated quite a large fortune. He carries a very large stock of gents' furnishing goods and ready-made clothing. He was united in marriage to Miss Amanda J. Brush, in Versailles, April 15, 1867, who was born in Lockington, Shelby Co., Ohio, July 2, 1850. Two children are the fruits of this union, viz.: G. W. Harry, born Oct. 14, 1867 ; Maggie F., Jan. 31, 1875. Mr. Simon has never been a political aspirant, although he has held many offices of trust ; he was elected Township Clerk when only 22 years of age, serving three years with much credit to himself ; was elected Justice of the Peace October, 1874, re-elected in 1877, being the youngest Justice of the Peace ever elected in Versailles ; was elected Mayor in the spring of 1879, which office he now holds ; he has also been a member of the School Board for six years. Mr. Simon has many warm friends, and is esteemed by all who know him.





L. M. STEVENSON, teacher, Versailles, Ohio. Samuel W. Stevenson, the father of L. M., was born in the city of Belfast, Ireland, Oct., 24, 1809; his father, Anthony, was keeper of the King's Cheque on Duties and Customs. His mother, Sarah, was a descendant of Sir John Cornwall, whose daughter married a French exile, named La Waie, a Huguenot, who had to fly for his life during the religious revolts in his native country, and crossed the channel, landing in Ireland, where he made his home for the remainder of his life. He made the acquaintance of Sir John Cornwall, while shooting birds in a small strip of timber belonging to the estate, known as Edendork, about one mile northwest of the town of Dungamour, County Tyrone, Ireland, and about eight miles south of that beautiful body of water, Lough Neagh; his parents being all Protestants, he received his early religious instructions in the creed of the established Church of England, and, in his early training, had inculcated the hereditary hatred of the Papists so common on the Island, where but two parties are known, the Papists and the Protestants, the latter being generally known as the "Orangemen," from William, Prince of Orange. Samuel W., like so many boys brought up in such close relationship with marine life, formed a great desire to be a sailor, and have his home on the mighty deep; so strong did the desire become, that, at the early age of 14, he left school and apprenticed himself to a sea-captain, for the purpose of becoming a sailor and navigator. The choice of office had been very suitable, and so well did he conduct himself, that he gained the confidence of the commander, and, before the first voyage was completed, he was promoted to second mate, which office he filled with credit to himself, and was promoted to first mate. His first voyage was made to Cronstadt, Stockholm, thence up the Baltic Sea to St. Petersburg, Russia. The second was to cross the Atlantic with a miscellaneous cargo to the United States, in which branch of the service he remained until October, 1829, having landed first at Pictora, Nova Scotia, on the 9th of July; during the night between October 31 and November 1, he was shipwrecked near Eastport, Me., from where he arrived at Quebec, July 2, 1830; at this time he was engaged in the shipment of timber, and on the 10th of July, while loading his vessel, he fell from the rigging to the deck, receiving such severe injuries as to prevent him going to sea afterward; he was placed in the Marine hospital at Quebec, known as the Sailors' Hospital, where he remained until he so far recovered from his injuries as to be able to again earn a livelihood; during the time of his illness he heard from home, but, as an estrangement had arisen between him and his father, he determined not to return home until he could own and command a vessel of his own; being, however, prevented from going on in his chosen vocation, he never accomplished his purpose: immediately after leaving the hospital he went with a party to the "front," as it was called, to cut and prepare ship-timber, with a contractor named Raney, in whose employ he remained one year; thinking he could now improve his condition he quit with the contractor who tried to defraud him of his year's earnings; from this a vexatious lawsuit arose, which lasted for three years, but was finally decided in his favor, and the contractor was compelled to pay the amount due: having obtained his money, he started again, but was prostrated at Rochester, N. Y., for nearly a year by sickness, and was able to go to work with only 50 cents in his pocket; his determination never wavered; he started in search of something to do, and found it with a civil engineer named Col. Hovey, with whom he remained for some time, and left his employer with mutual regret, the Colonel saying, "You think the great El Dorado is Ohio;" this remark at once decided him that, be his fortune what it might, he never would come back in a worse condition financially than he then was, and if his condition was better he did not wish to return; putting his purpose into execution, he arrived at Oswego, N. Y., Sept. 5, 1835, where he remained for some time, obtaining and finishing several contracts of a canal then being contracted for; his desire to go to Ohio being paramount to all else, he left New York, and arrived in Shelby County, Ohio, some time in 1838 or 1839; the canal extending from Cincinnati to





Toledo being in process of construction, he obtained a contract from Jesse McClure; he again went to ditching, in the prosecution of which he so injured his health by exposure that he could work no longer physically; he then, by the solicitation of his friends, began to teach school; having fully determined to make the United States his home, he filed his intentions in the Court of Shelby County, Ohio, on the 9th of November, 1839, and in 1842 received his certificate of citizenship; having once entered upon the vocation of teaching, he was so successful that he could not withdraw, and his services were in continual demand; he became somewhat engaged in local politics, serving for several terms as Clerk of Cynthiana Township, and was finally brought out as a candidate for the office of Auditor of Shelby County; in this he was defeated by only six votes. On the 24th day of December, 1841, he married Mary Ann McClelland, by whom he had two sons; the elder, Alexander Finley, was born Sept. 4, 1842; and the younger, Leander Montgomery, April 12, 1845. After his marriage, he tried farming, but could not make it a success, and finally abandoned it altogether. On the 27th of July, 1847, his wife died, and he was again cast out upon the world. Leaving his two children with their grandfather, he opened a school in Sidney, Shelby Co., which he taught with his usual success, and at the close of the term he engaged with Mr. McGrew to run his line of boats from Sidney to Cincinnati until the freezing up of the canal, but trade became so depressed and freight so light that he released Mr. McGrew from the contract after making two trips to Cincinnati. Again becoming a pedagogue, he opened and taught a school in Wapakoneta, the present county seat of Auglaize Co., closing his school in September, 1849. He was then called to Houston, Shelby Co., to take charge of the school there, and in the spring of 1850 he entered a piece of land in Shelby Co., lying about four miles east of Berlin. He now resumed teaching during the winter, and in the summer he cleared his land. May 15, 1851, he married Mary Ellen, the second and only living daughter of Mr. William English, of Wayne Township, Darke Co. He now began to keep house a second time, and during the winter he taught the school near Speer's landing, on the Laramie, about two miles east of Houston, removing in May, 1852, to his "home in the woods," where he remained until September, when he was again called to take charge of the school at Wapakoneta and to act as County Examiner. To his great surprise, he found the same figures on the blackboard that he had placed there in 1849. He now gave up the project of clearing his farm and gave his whole attention to teaching, serving in this capacity at Hardin, Shelby Co.; Morant, Jefferson Co., and Versailles, Darke Co., Ohio, from which place he removed May 1, 1856, to Covington, Miami Co., where he had purchased a small property. There he remained seven years, and began to accumulate some wealth, purchasing property in the town, now owned and occupied by D. C. Shellabarger. This, with his little farm, he exchanged for what was known as the "Two Mile House," on the Covington and Gettysburg Pike, two miles west of Covington. In March, 1864, he sold out and removed to Versailles, Darke Co., purchasing a farm about two miles northwest of the town, where he resided until Nov. 7, 1872, when he again removed to Hill Grove, near Union City, Ind., where he took charge of the flouring mill, for which he had exchanged his farm. He remained here until June 7, 1873, when he again returned to Versailles and lived with his youngest son until his death, May 31, 1876. During life, he was always an upright and honest man, a fearless and uncompromising patriot, giving both his sons to the service of his country during the war, both of whom returned safe at its close. He finally sank peacefully to rest, sincerely mourned by many; loved, honored and respected by all. Leander M. Stevenson, whose name heads this sketch, is a young man of fine address, and possesses rare abilities as an educator and instructor, and merits more than a passing notice. As will be seen in his father's sketch, he was left an orphan while he was quite young, having passed through the many struggles and trials so common to those that have been left



without the instructions of a loving mother : but being of the same turn of mind as his father, to dispel the dark clouds that would gather around him, and keeping the motto steadily in view, "No excellence without labor," he has come off more than conqueror, acquiring a good academic education by his own exertion : the writer of this article can truthfully say that he is strictly a self-made man, and deserves a wider notice than the writer can possibly give on account of space and ability. When he was 18 years old, he enlisted in the army and went forth in defense of his country, giving two years of his life in hard-fought battles and long and dreary marches : when he returned home he entered the "Iron City College," from which he graduated in April, 1866 : he also took a course in telegraphy : in April, 1879, he made a visit to Ireland and England. On the 1st of May, 1873, he celebrated his marriage with Mary McKnight, who is a native of Ohio, born in Darke County, on the 24th day of September, 1853 : in September, 1873, he was called and appointed Superintendent of the High School of Versailles, Ohio, where he taught two years with good success, during which time he wrote out an entire course of study for the school, which injured his health so that he was compelled to relinquish teaching for two years. Three children have been born to this union, viz. : Sir Harcourt Lee, born Jan. 30, 1874 (he was named in honor of the editor and publisher of the *Brunswick Club*, the only Protestant paper in Belfast at that time) ; Edith J., born 2d of October, 1875 ; Susannah, died Dec. 5, 1878.

G. W. HOLLIS, Postmaster, Versailles ; son of J. J. and Sarah Hollis : was born in Virginia, 1824 ; settled in this county, 1857. Was married to Lucinda Osgood, of Frankfort, Hampshire Co., Va., 1850 ; one child, Charles J.

ALFERD MONGEVILLE ; P. O. Versailles ; son of Gerard and Mary Margaret Mongeville ; was born in Darke County, 1850. Was united in marriage with Ella Yates, of Versailles.

W. H. STOVER, merchant, Versailles ; son of William and Elizabeth Stover ; was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, in 1849 ; settled in this township, 1875. Was united in marriage with Lucinda Hole, in Versailles, in 1874 ; three children—Maggie Belle, Harvey Gary, Isaiah.

G. W. STUDABAKER, attorney-at-law, Versailles. The subject of this memoir is a native of Ohio, born in Darke County, three miles south of Greenville, on the 23d day of September, 1840 ; spent his boyhood days on the farm, assisting his father in the cultivation of the soil ; the plow, spade and ax were implements to which he was no stranger ; he spent the winter months in attending the district school, where he obtained a good common-school education. On the 8th day of May, 1854, unfortunately his father died, leaving a widowed mother and five children to survive the storms of life, without the parental instructions of a father. In 1857, he became infatuated with what was then known as the "Kansas fever"—to "go West and grow up with the country ;" he, in company with Jacob Rees, E. Calkins and Allen Jaqua, left on the 2d day of March for the "Far West," and upon their arrival found the people divided on the subject of slavery, and during the Kansas trouble he became strongly opposed to the extension of slavery, and embraced the principles then advocated by the Republican party, and became a Radical in the true sense of the term, always found advocating the abolition of slavery, until the great rebellion put an end to the controversy. In 1865, he commenced the study of law, under the instructions of A. R. Calderwood, at Greenville, Ohio, and in October, 1871, passed an examination before the Supreme Court of Columbus, Ohio, after which he was regularly admitted as an attorney and counselor at law ; he then opened a law office in Versailles, Ohio, where he has since lived and practiced his profession ; and by his close application to his office, and strict attention to business consigned to his management, he has gained a large and lucrative practice throughout the county in which he resides, as well as abroad ; and, as an advocate before a jury, in presenting his side of the case, he has no equal : his natural ability seems to be adapted for the profession of his own solicitation ; it can truly be

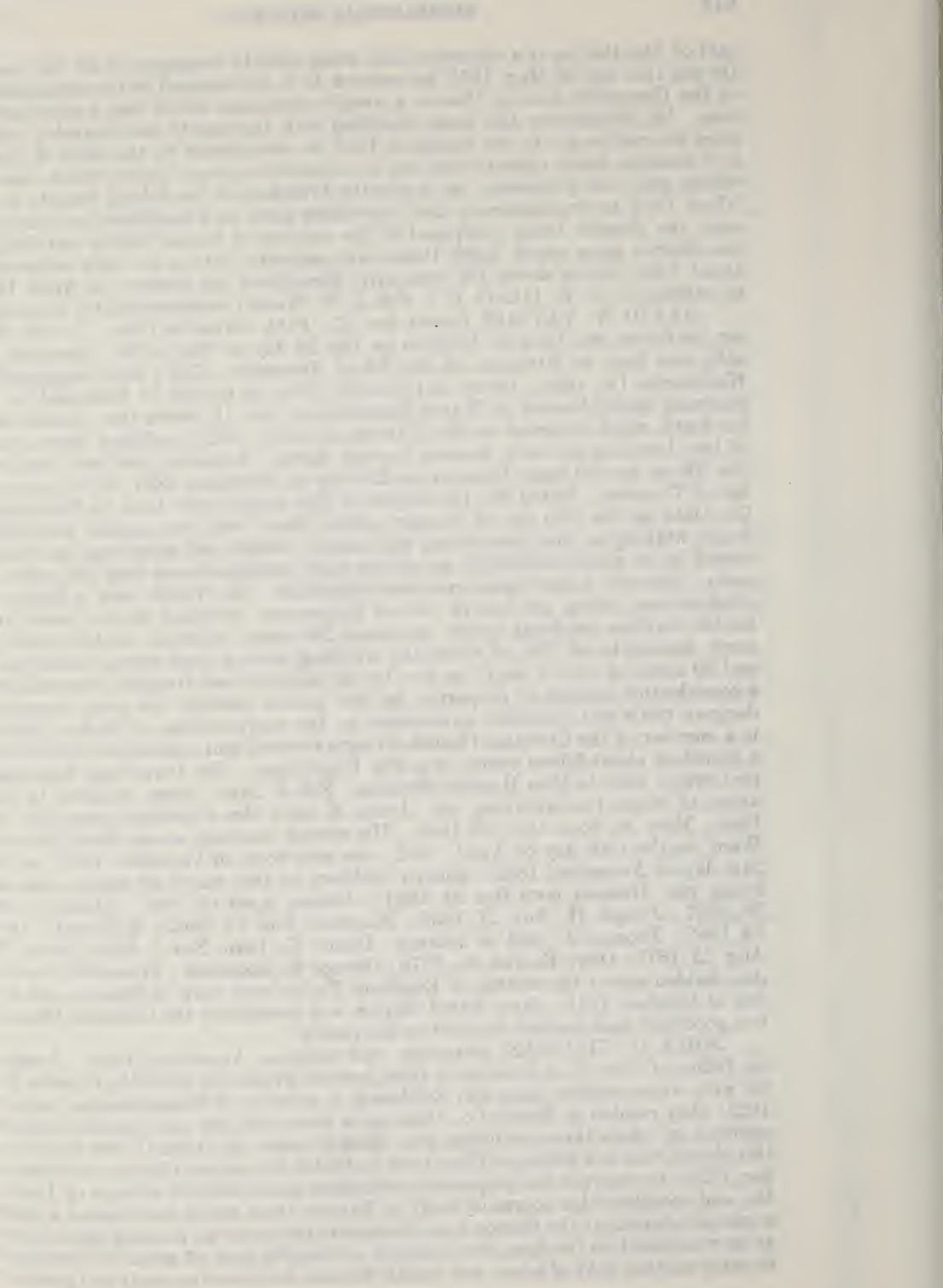




said of him that he is a *self-made man*, being strictly temperate in all his habits. On the 11th day of May, 1875, he assisted A. R. Calderwood in the establishment of the *Greenville Sunday Courier*, a weekly newspaper which has a wide circulation. Mr. Studabaker has been identified with the county and township offices since his residence; in the spring of 1873, he was elected to the office of Mayor in Versailles, which office he held for six consecutive years, during which time the village grew and prospered: he is also the President of the School Board; in the fall of 1875, he was chosen by the Republican party as a candidate for State Senator, the district being composed of the counties of Darke, Shelby and Miami; the district gives about 1,800 Democratic majority, but he was only defeated by about 1,000, which shows his popularity throughout the district; in April, 1861, he enlisted in Co. K, 11th O. V. I., Col. J. W. Fraizell commanding the regiment.

DAVID W. TAYLOR, farmer, Sec. 17; P. O. Versailles, Ohio. Joseph Taylor, his father, was born in Virginia on the 2d day of May, 1783; Elizabeth, his wife, was born in Virginia, on the 5th of November, 1789; they emigrated to Washington Co., Ohio; thence to Darke Co., Ohio, in the fall of 1833, and in the following spring located in Wayne Township on Sec. 17, where they resided until his death, which occurred on the 27th day of July, 1842, by falling from a load of hay, breaking his neck, causing instant death. Elizabeth, his wife, departed this life on the old home farm, on the 23d day of February, 1867, at the advanced age of 78 years. David W., the subject of this sketch, was born in Washington Co., Ohio, on the 12th day of January, 1825; lived with his parents until their death, working on the farm during the summer season, and attending the district school in the winter months, in an old log cabin, with puncheon floor and poles for seats; obtained a fair common-school education. Mr. Taylor was a kind and obedient son, taking the best of care of his parents, receiving the old home farm for his services rendered, which contained 100 acres, to which he has added 50 acres, making in all, 150, of which 120 are being under a good state of cultivation, and 30 acres of timber land; he has, by his industry and frugality, accumulated a considerable amount of property; he has passed through the many struggles, dangers, trials and incidents so common to the early settlers of Darke County; is a member of the Christian Church, living a devoted and consistent Christian for a period of about fifteen years; is a firm Republican. Mr. Taylor has been married twice: first, to Miss Hannah Brandon, Feb. 8, 1846; three children by this union, of whom two are living, viz.: Lydia E. (now Mrs. Christian), born Nov. 17, 1846; Mary A., born April 28, 1848. His second marriage was to Miss Elizabeth Ward, on the 15th day of April, 1852; she was born in Versailles, Ohio, on the 21st day of November, 1832. Eleven children by this union, of whom nine are living, viz.: Hannah, born Dec. 21, 1854; Joseph, April 10, 1856; Hester, Nov. 30, 1857; Joseph H., Nov. 27, 1859; Margaret, Nov. 11, 1862; William G., Dec. 19, 1863; Thomas J., died in infancy; David E., born Nov. 5, 1869; John T., Aug. 25, 1872; Olive E., Jan. 31, 1878; George W., deceased. Hannah Creviston (her maiden name), the mother of Elizabeth Taylor, was born in Ohio, on the 5th day of October, 1811. Mrs. David Taylor is a member of the Christian Church; is a good and kind mother, devoted to her family.

JOHN C. TILLMAN, physician and surgeon, Versailles, Ohio. Joshua, the father of John C., is a native of Ohio, born in Preble Co. in 1824; Cynthia M., his wife, whose maiden name was Estabrook, is a native of Massachusetts, born in 1822; they resided in Preble Co., Ohio, on a farm and are the parents of eight children, of whom three are living, viz.: Mollie, Lizzie and John C.; the subject of this sketch, who is a native of Ohio, born in Preble Co. on the 17th day of September, 1850; he received his preparatory education in the district schools of Preble Co., and completed his course of study in Dayton, Ohio, where he obtained a good academic education; the Doctor is no stranger to the use of all farming implements, as he was raised on the farm, but being of a scientific turn of mind he concluded to enter another field of labor, and luckily for him he chose the study and practice





of medicine, which is the most comprehensive branch of the whole curriculum of nature; and at the age of 23 he entered the office of Drs. D. Robison and John Ford, of Arcanum, Ohio, and commenced the study of medicine, and in the spring of 1877 he graduated at the Ohio Medical College; during the same spring he opened an office in Dawn, Darke Co., where he remained till fall, and on the 5th of August, 1877, he moved to Versailles, where he formed a partnership with Dr. J. P. Gordon, whose sketch appears in another place in this work: the Doctor has quite an extensive practice, and is highly esteemed by his many friends and acquaintances. On the 25th of November, 1879, he celebrated his marriage with Estella Sweigart, an accomplished daughter of Henry and Mary A. Sweigart, who is a native of Ohio, born in December, 1858; the Doctor is strictly temperate in all his habits.

**GEORGE H. TURPEN;** merchant, Versailles. Henry, the father of George H., was born in Dutchess Co., N. Y., on the 16th of November, 1775; he married Mary Hubbard, a native of Connecticut, born in Middletown, on the 16th of April, 1780; they resided in New York City for a period of eleven years, and in 1819, came to Ohio, locating in Warren Co., near Lebanon, where he remained till 1828, when he moved to Darke Co., locating in what was then called Hunter's Settlement, four miles north of Greenville, which at that time was almost an entire wilderness; by perseverance, economy, integrity and hard labor, he opened out a nice farm; he raised a large family, and on the 10th of May, 1839, he departed this life, being 64 years old. Mary, his wife, died on the 13th of September, 1838. George H., the subject of this sketch, is a native of York State, born in the city of New York, on the 7th of October, 1813; came with his parents to Ohio, when he was only 6 years old; received his education in the common schools; Mr. Turpen is one of Darke Co.'s old pioneers, and has passed through the many struggles, trials, dangers and incidents so common to the pioneer of the West. He married Margaret White, who was born May 1, 1819; she died on the 26th of March, 1835; he celebrated his second marriage with Anna Pugh, who is a native of Ohio, born Sept. 26, 1816; he is the father of ten children, of whom five are living, viz.: John Henry, born Dec. 14, 1838; Mary Ann, born Sept. 30, 1840; Joseph Connel, born May 3, 1849; Ancel Hubbard, born Feb. 8, 1851; Lucy Bell, born Dec. 25, 1858; deceased—Sarah Amanda, William M., Cordelia C., Margaret, George Alonzo.

**J. T. WARD,** grocer, Versailles; son of George and Hannah Ward; was born in Versailles, Darke Co., Sept. 28, 1847. Was married in Versailles to P. V. Simons, 1871; children—Marvin, Mary and Louis Oliver.

**J. C. WILLIAMSON,** physician, Versailles; son of David and Elizabeth (McGrew) Williamson; was born in Greenville Township, Darke Co.; parents settled here in 1816. Was united in marriage with Rachel Reed, of Versailles, in 1872; one child, Olive Addrela Ella.

**J. J. WINBIGLER,** teacher, Versailles, Ohio. Samuel Winbigler, the father of J. J., was born in Maryland, near Frederick City, January, 1817; emigrated to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in the year 1831; remaining there till the year 1844, when he moved to Darke Co., where he resided till his death, which occurred May 4, 1875; Anna M. Weaver, his wife, was born in Montgomery Co., near Miamisburg, Feb. 13, 1821; is still living, being 68 years old; her mother, Susan Weaver, whose maiden name was Gephart, was born in Berks Co., Penn., October, 1795; and is still living at the advanced age of 84. Elizabeth, her mother, who departed this life in 1864, was 95 years and 7 days old; had at the time of her death, 90 grandchildren living, 310 great grandchildren, and 28 of the fourth generation. J. J. Winbigler, the subject of this sketch was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, on the 25th day of May, 1839; lived with his parents till he was 21 years old, working on the farm during the summer season, and attending the district school in the winter. He also attended a select school six months at Jaysville, and three months at Beamsville, obtaining a good common-school education. In 1862, he enlisted in the 88th O. V. I. Co. D, for three years, performing garrison duty was mustered out of duty on





the 3d day of July, 1865 ; returned home and taught school for a period of two years, after which he bought an interest in a saw-mill, which he operated for about 2 years ; sold out and has since followed his profession, teaching during the fall and winter months, and canvassing in the summer. Mr. Winbigler has many warm friends, and is highly esteemed by all who know him ; has never been a political aspirant, although he has had his full share of township offices ; was Township Clerk of York for two terms, and one term as Assessor ; was elected Assessor of Wayne Township in the spring of 1879 ; is a firm Democrat. Was united in marriage to Miss Susan A. Lyons on the 2d day of October, 1865 ; four children were the fruits of this union, of whom three are living, viz. : John S., was born on the 2d day of May, 1867 ; Armenia J., born on the 9th day of December, 1868 ; Harry F., born on the 21st day of November, 1873 ; Willie L., born on the 19th day of September, 1869 ; died on the 17th day of September 1870.

SAMUEL M. WOODS, retired farmer ; Sec. 21 ; P. O. Versailles. Henry Woods, the father of Samuel M., was born in Virginia in the year 1789 ; Jane, his wife, was born in Virginia in the year 1790 ; Mr. Woods emigrated to Hamilton Co., Ohio, in the year 1814, remaining there but three years, after which he moved to Preble Co., only remaining there a short time, moving to Darke Co., Harrison Township, in the year 1825, remaining there eight years, after which he came to Wayne Township, where he remained till his death, which occurred on the 3d day of December, 1853 ; Jane, his wife, departed this life on the 13th day of May, 1847. Samuel M. Woods, the subject of this sketch, was born in Hamilton Co., Ohio, on the 9th day of June, 1817 ; lived with his parents and attended the district school till he was about 12 years old, after which he went with his parents to Darke Co., Wayne Township, on the banks of Stillwater, where he only attended school about six months, there being no public schools in reach, and not a sufficient number of pupils in the settlement to support a subscription school, and a hard difficulty to obtain a building suitable for the purpose ; but by his own exertions has obtained a fair education. Wayne Township, at that time, being almost an entire wilderness ; lived there with his parents, helping to clear and open up a farm till the year 1846, after which he moved northwest of Webster, on the Huddle tract, to the same township, living there for about two years ; moving on the Mio farm, in the same township, remaining there about three years, and in the fall of 1851, he moved on a tract of land containing 95 acres, which he bought the year previous, where he has continued to reside ever since ; there was only about 2 acres cleared, but by his strict temperate habits and hard labor, connected with the help of his good and amiable wife, he now has under a good state of cultivation about 80 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Woods, have passed through the many struggles, dangers and incidents so common to the pioneer of the West, but with an iron will and unflinching nerve, have gained the victory, and are now reaping the reward of a hard-earned fortune ; Mr. Woods has had his full share of township offices, viz. : Trustee for a period of about fifteen years ; Supervisor, School Director, and served a term of six years as one of the Directors of the County Infirmary ; is a firm Democrat. Was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Harrison, on the 10th day of October, 1844 ; she was born in Tennessee on the 17th day of September, 1824 ; twelve children were the fruits of this union, nine of whom are living, viz. : Lewis, born Oct. 1, 1848 ; James, Dec. 26, 1849 ; Julia A., Jan. 10, 1852 ; Franklin, March 2, 1854 ; Mary, April 10, 1855 ; Richard, Feb. 15, 1857 ; Hannah, Nov. 21, 1858 ; Martha, Nov. 13, 1860 ; William, Jan. 12, 1863 ; Clara, May 4, 1865 ; Henry J. and Sarah J., deceased.

C. BASTINE WORCH, of the Brandon House, Versailles, Ohio, was born in Germany, May 17, 1833 ; received a German education, after which he learned the bakery trade ; emigrated to America with his brother George, when but 20 years old ; landed in New York Aug. 20, 1853 ; remained but two days in the city ; went to Dayton, Ohio ; took sick immediately after arriving and lay nine months ; did not have any money and could not speak a word of English.





worked on a farm in Montgomery Co., Ohio, for about three years, receiving \$12.50 a month. On the 24th of December, 1857, he was united in marriage with Mary Thomas: she was born in Germany Aug. 19, 1836; moved to New Madison, Darke Co., where he worked at coopering about eight years; sold out and engaged in the mercantile and hotel business, in the same place, for about twelve years; sold out, and moved to Greenville March 1, 1877; kept a boarding-house about fourteen months, with good success; after which, he moved to Versailles, where he took charge of the "Brandon House," May 1, 1879, and is doing the largest business of any hotel in the village. Four children were the fruits of their marriage, viz.: Mary L., born March 20, 1859; Emma L., Jan. 14, 1861; George H., March 16, 1863; R. E., May 1, 1869.

JOSEPH YODER, farmer, Sec. 5; P. O. Versailles, Ohio; was born in France June 5, 1807; lived with his parents, working on the farm during the summer and attending school during the winter months, obtaining a good common-school education; after arriving at his majority, commenced framing on his own responsibility, paying \$400 rent per annum for 100 acres of land, and meeting with fair success; embarked for America March 19, 1833, and after a long and tedious voyage of three months—being lost at one time—landed in New York in May; moved near Utica, N. Y., bought a farm of 20 acres, where he continued to farm for about two years, sold out and moved to Stark Co., where he resided for a period of nine years on a farm; and, in 1844, he moved to Darke Co., Wayne Township, Sec. 5, where he has resided ever since; he bought 80 acres first, after which he added 92 acres, but has since sold 35 acres, leaving 137 acres in a good state of cultivation; when Mr. Yoder moved on his land, it was almost covered with water, and not an acre cleared; he built a log cabin, covered it with clapboards and used a puncheon floor, which he split with maul and wedge out of white-oak timber: he has, by his industry, and the help of his amiable wife, accumulated a sufficient amount of this world's goods to keep them the rest of their days. Mr. Yoder has taken a very active part in politics, and has always voted the Republican ticket; his religious impressions are mainly due to his mother, who was a pious, thrifty and hard-working woman, given to saving and devoted to her family. Was united in marriage to Miss Anna Klopenstine, in France, Oct. 5, 1829; she was born in France Oct. 9, 1810; eight children were born to them, of whom four are living, viz.: Catharine, born March 7, 1832; Christopher, March 1, 1835; John, Feb. 10, 1847; Mary M., July 7, 1849; Joseph, died Feb. 13, 1848; Barbria, May 18, 1852; Eli, Feb. 26, 1861; Anna, June 9, 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Yoder have passed through the many struggles, incidents and dangers so common to the pioneers of the Great West, and are to-day hardy and robust, at the advanced ages of 72 and 69, an aggregate of 141 years—having shared the joys of connubial life for more than 50 years.

## MONROE TOWNSHIP.

ABRAHAM ARNETT, farmer; P. O. Arcanum; one of the settlers of Darke Co., was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Sept. 17, 1825, and is the son of Henry and Mary Arnett, natives of Pennsylvania, and removed to Montgomery Co., when there were but three houses where the city of Dayton now stands, and resided here till 1827, when he removed to Miami Co., and settled on 160 acres of land in the green woods; our subject assisted his father in clearing and other farm labor till his 19th year, when he began life for himself, and engaged in farming, and removed to Darke Co., at an early day and settled on a leased farm, and managed to clear up 50 acres, which he had previously purchased which he sold, and immediately bought 80 acres adjoining, cleared and improved,





and again selling out he purchased 116 acres where he now lives, which is in a high state of cultivation at the present time, and has first-class buildings erected thereon. Mr. Arnett went out into the world with no capital save a resolution and determination to win, and by great industry and perseverance, in which he has been generously assisted by his industrious wife. He was united in marriage with Leah, daughter of Jacob and Susanna Friend, Sept. 12, 1844; her parents were natives of Maryland and afterward residents of Miami Co.; three children were given to this union, viz., Tobias, born Jan. 27, 1846; Sarah A., Jan. 8, 1845, died Dec. 5, 1860; Margaret, May 8, 1848, departed this life April 8, 1854. Mr. Arnett's father still lives at the advanced age of 93 years, and resides in Whitley Co., Ind. Our subject has filled the office of School Director for nine years in succession, and has been elected Clerk of the Board. Mr. and Mrs. Arnett are members of the German Baptist Church of twenty-five years' standing, and are consistent Christian people.

**SAMUEL M. BAKER**, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 1; P. O. Arcanum. The subject of this sketch was born in Montgomery Co. in 1829, and is a son of Jacob and Sarah Baker, old residents of Montgomery Co., but natives of Somerset Co., Penn. When they removed to Montgomery Co., there was only one little cabin in Dayton. Our subject assisted his father in the duties of the farm till his 19th year, when he began life for himself and engaged in farming. He was united in marriage with Mary, daughter of John and Elizabeth Niswonger, in July, 1849; nine children have been given to this union, viz.: Hollis, born April 22, 1850; Sarah E., May 31, 1851; Hamilton, Oct. 25, 1853; Pharis, Sept. 16, 1855; Mary C., Jan. 23, 1858; Ezra, Feb. 23, 1860; Susanna, July 10, 1862; Lydia A., Jan. 28, 1865; Aldie M., July 1, 1867. Mr. Baker has 162 acres of as fine land as is to be found in the county, all in a good state of cultivation, with good, comfortable buildings erected thereon.

**BENJAMIN BLACKBURN**, deceased. The subject of this memoir is a martyr of his country. He was a son of Moses and Lydia Blackburn, and a brother of Moses and John Blackburn, whose sketches appear in this work. At his country's call, when the first wild notes of war were echoing and re-echoing over the land, young Benjamin was among the first to respond to his country's call, and volunteered in Company B, 110th O. V. I.; he went bravely and resolutely forth to do his duty. Our informant, Mr. D. W. Niswonger, who was a member of the same regiment, speaks in glowing terms of the bravery and stability of the deceased. To the best of his recollection, he says he was in every engagement the regiment participated in, which was not a few, for the 110th bore the scars of many a well-fought and nobly contested battle, and we can fearlessly say none bore the brunt of battle or the fatigue of march better than this gallant band. In the battle of Cumberland Gap he was taken prisoner, but his fearlessness and presence of mind enabled him to make his escape. At Monocacy, on the 9th of July, 1864, he was again taken, and imprisoned at Danville, Va., and afterward in the pens of torture and suffering at Andersonville. He was a very robust young man, naturally cheerful, and bore up nobly under the brutish treatment he received, but hunger broke his iron will; the filth and dirt in the prison made his quarters worse than a living tomb. He had not clothing to cover his body, nor blankets to keep him warm during the night, and not a crumb to satisfy his hunger: for six months he withstood this terrible treatment, and during January, 1865, death came to his relief; his sufferings were ended, and the angels of mercy carried the soul of a martyr without the prison walls, but the mortal part was left and received interment where he had suffered so intensely.

**JOHN BLACKBURN**, farmer and stock-raiser. The subject of this sketch was born in this township, Jan. 23, 1835, and is a son of Moses Blackburn, who settled here about 1830, and made the first opening on this side. Our subject was reared on the farm, and assisted his father in the duties of the farm till he was 26 years of age, when he began life for himself and engaged in farming, which pur-





suit he has always followed; purchased 80 acres of land in 1871, and moved on it in 1872; it was mostly cleared, and his land is in good cultivation, with fair improvements; he has since purchased 40 acres adjoining the old home place, and now owns 120 acres. He was united in marriage with Mary, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Hall, Oct. 13, 186—. Mr. and Mrs. Hall are natives of South Carolina, and came here in a very early day; her mother died at the age of 60 years; her father is still living and resides in this township, aged 81 years; they were parents of sixteen children, of whom nine are living—James, John, Tamer, Eliza, Mary, Amos, Joseph, William and Ezekiel Hall. Our subject began the battle of life empty-handed, and he has, by hard work, industry and good management, with the assistance rendered by his industrious and amiable wife, succeeded in making a good home; they are the parents of eight children, of whom seven are living—Amanda, born Dec. 8, 1861; Andrew J., July 7, 1863; Lydia A., Jan. 13, 1865; Laura Bell, Sept. 25, 1870; Harley, Aug. 17, 1872; Hezekiah, Feb. 27, 1875; Lola, July 25, 1877; Harvey, Feb. 9, 1867, and departed this life Oct. 13, 1871. Both Mr. and Mrs. Blackburn have been members of the Brethren of Christ Church for three years, and are exemplary Christian people. Mr. Blackburn only had the advantage of such education as he could procure by his own exertions. Mrs. Blackburn was born May 3, 1839. Mr. and Mrs. Hall were both born in 1809; Mrs. Hall departed this life Jan. 12, 1870; Lydia is a member of the same church; is a co-worker with her parents in doing good, and is a very exemplary young lady.

MOSES BLACKBURN, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 21; P. O. Potsdam, Miami County. The subject of this memoir was born on Aug. 22, 1848, and is a son of Moses and Lydia Blackburn; his father was born in Lancaster Co., Penn., Sept. 22, 1812, and removed to Ohio in 1836, and settled on 80 acres of wild land, where he resided until his death, which occurred March 31, 1877, aged 64 years and 6 months; his mother was born near Hamilton, Ohio, March 25, 1811; they were united in marriage in 1833. Mrs. Blackburn is still living, and resides on the old home place. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom six are living, viz.: Daniel, John, Sarah, William, Abner and Moses; the deceased are Margaret, Benjamin, Elmira (died Aug. 15, 1879), Lydia, Edward and Hannah. Our subject was reared on the farm, and at the age of 15 he began life for himself, and was engaged in various pursuits until 1865, when he made a trip to McLean Co., Ill., where he remained about one year, and then returned to Ohio; he purchased 45 acres of land where he now resides, in October, 1873; he was united in marriage with Miss Mary E., daughter of Jacob and Martha Izenbaugh, Dec. 21, 1871; her parents were residents of Miami County and natives of Ohio; her mother departed this life June 14, 1855, aged 27 years 4 months and 4 days. Mr. and Mrs. Blackburn are the parents of four children, viz.: Charley, born Nov. 19, 1873; George, born Oct. 10, 1875; Anna, born Nov. 4, 1877; Cora, born Aug. 24, 1872, and departed this life Aug. 26 of the same year, and Harvey, born Jan. 17, 1880. Mrs. Blackburn was born May 23, 1850; Mr. Izenbaugh was born May 14, 1822; Mrs. Izenbaugh was born Oct. 10, 1827; they were the parents of three children, viz.: Matilda J., Martha A. and Mary E.; his second marriage was consummated with Mary E. Knee, who was born March 22, 1836, and are the parents of six children, viz.: Joseph, now deceased, Awdine, Catherine B., Laura E., Florence M. and Jesse. Mr. and Mrs. Blackburn have been members of the Brethren-in-Christ Church for three years; they are leading members of the church, and are exemplary Christian people. This denomination have a regular organization, just below Georgetown, of eighty visible members, and are presided over by the Rev. George Wright; Abraham Wright, Elder; Moses Blackburn, Deacon. Mr. Blackburn has recently purchased the east half of the David Heckman farm, 50 acres in Sec. 16, also a 5-acre lot in Sec. 21.

A. C. BOBBS, physician, now a resident of and practicing physician and surgeon in Union Township, Miami County; was born in Clermont County in





the year 1838 ; he is a son of Adam and Elizabeth Bobbs ; his father was born in the State of Pennsylvania, his mother in this State ; his father is deceased ; his mother is still living, and resides in Montgomery County ; they were parents of four children—A. J., physician and surgeon, residing in Warren, Ind. ; Elizabeth, now Mrs. John Henderson ; and Caroline, now Mrs. Dr. Tedrow. The subject of our biography spent his boyhood days on the farm until he had arrived at the age of 15, when he began the study of medicine under Dr. J. D. Gaines, of California, Hamilton Co., this State ; for three years he labored under the instructions of Dr. Games, engaged in solving the mysteries and science of medicine ; he then entered the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, in which he studied two terms ; he then entered the army as assistant surgeon, and finally entered the marine hospital at Cincinnati, in which he remained three years, where he received a broad experience in the profession ; in 1863, he entered a college in Buffalo, N. Y., in which he finished his studies, graduating at this institution in 1864, and receiving his diploma ; he commenced the practice of medicine in Union, Miami County, in partnership with Dr. Hawkins, with whom he practiced for one year ; in 1865, he located where he now resides, and has built up a large and increasing practice, making a specialty of fevers and diphtheria. In 1861, he was married to Margaret Shellabargar, by whom he has had three children, viz., Charles C., Samuel O. and E. A. Mrs. Bobbs is a daughter of Samuel Shellabargar, who is a native of Pennsylvania ; her mother, Elizabeth, is a native of this State ; both living. When the Doctor settled at his present location he was without means, but, by close attention to his profession, has built up a lucrative practice, and is possessed of a good property ; in 1878, he erected a residence in the village, which for taste and beauty in design and finish has no equal, in which the Doctor and his estimable wife have a desirable home ; he owns 25 acres of improved land adjoining the village.

WILLIAM L. BONHAM, retired farmer. Sec. 36 ; P. O. Gordon ; one of the old settlers of Darke Co. ; he was born in Hunterdon Co., N. J., Feb. 12, 1815, and is a son of Ambrose and Ann Bonham, natives of the same place ; his father died in the place of his nativity, at the age of 81 years ; after his death, his wife came to Ohio, and resided with a daughter till her death, which occurred at the advanced age of 86 years ; our subject was reared on the farm, and assisted his father in agricultural pursuits till he was of age, when he began life for himself, and engaged in coopering for about fifteen years, mostly in Darke Co. ; he emigrated to Ohio in 1838, and settled in Montgomery Co., seven miles below Dayton, where he resided for three years, and then came to Darke Co., April 1, 1841, and temporarily settled in Gordon for less than a year, when he removed to the place where he now resides, in February, 1842 ; his land was all in the woods, but by dint of hard labor and persevering industry, he soon cleared it of the mantle nature gave it ; he now owns 65 acres of fine land, all in a good state of cultivation, with good, comfortable buildings erected thereon ; Mr. Bonham is another of the self-made men of this township ; he landed on the banks of the Miami River, with less than \$75, but, by good management, combined with the assistance rendered by his amiable wife, has secured a competent income, from which to enjoy their declining years, and they are surrounded by all the comforts of life. He was united in marriage with Rebecca, daughter of David and Elizabeth Rittenhouse, July 1, 1837 ; they were also natives of New Jersey, and their remains are interred in their native State ; Mr. H. died at the age of 81, and Mrs. H., at the age of 53 years ; Mr. and Mrs. Bonham are the parents of eight children, of whom four are living, viz. : Harrison, born Aug. 24, 1840 ; Sarah, born June 29, 1844, now Mrs. Garrett Hulce. Uriah, born June 27, 1847 ; Martha J., born Sept. 3, 1856, now Mrs. Carler. The deceased are : Amy, born April 14, 1838, died Nov. 10, 1841 ; Ann, born Oct. 18, 1842, and died Nov. 4, 1842 ; Andrew, born Sept. 22, 1849, died Sept. 10, 1851. Susan, born March 4, 1854, and departed this life Sept. 9, 1854. Mr. Bonham assessed this township in 1845, for which service he received \$3.50, and was also Constable the same year. Mr. and Mrs. Bonham are members of the Baptist





Church of long standing, are among the faithful ones, and are consistent Christian people. Our subject has given his children good education, and his son Harrison is one of the leading educators of the county, and has followed the profession at intervals for fourteen years. At his country's call for help to preserve the unity of the States, and to crush the rebellious spirit of the South, young Harrison was one among the first to respond and volunteer in Co. B of the 110th O. V. I., Aug. 22, 1862; the regiment was drilled in army tactics at Piqua, about two months, when they were removed to the front, in the vicinity of Parkersburg; his regiment participated in the severe and stubbornly contested battle of Winchester, and after three consecutive days of incessant battle, were obliged to yield the ground on account of the overwhelming numbers of the enemy; he received a severe wound in the right arm, and was taken prisoner on the morning of the last day's fight, and was entombed in the prison-pen at Belle Isle for one month, when he was paroled, and returned to his home for three months, when he was exchanged, and again returned to the front; but by disease caused by exposure, and army dirt, he was incapacitated from active duty till the following spring, when health and strength again returned, and he took his place in the ranks of his battered regiment on the eve of the great battle of the Wilderness; in the first day's fight, May 5, he received a severe wound in the right hip, and was again taken to the hospital, where he remained for some time, and then came home on a furlough; he recovered from his wound, and returned to the front in the winter of 1864; his regiment took an active part in the battles of the spring of 1865, that gave the death-blow to the rebellion; he was honorably discharged May 16, 1865. Has followed teaching for nine years, with the exception of two terms. He celebrated his marriage with Catharine, daughter of Hendrick and Elizabeth Barkalow, Nov. 26, 1865; they are natives of Butler Co., Ohio, but residents now of Darke Co.; Mr. Bonham has 79 acres of fine land, all in a good state of cultivation, and his improvements are No. 1 in every particular.

DAVID BRENNER, farmer, Sec. 6; P. O. Gordon. Our subject was born in Darke Co. April 12, 1838, and is a son of George and Elizabeth Brenner, natives of Pennsylvania, who removed to Darke Co. in a very early day, and located in this township, where he, the father, lived for two years, when he met with an accident that cost him his life; he was unhitching a horse in the yard, when the animal became enraged and gave Mr. Brenner a terrible kick in the stomach, which caused his death a few hours afterward; his mother is still living, and resides near Union City upward of 60 years of age. Our subject was reared on the farm, and assisted in the duties of farm labor; at the age of 16, he began life for himself and worked as a farm-hand till his marriage, which occurred Dec. 23, 1860, with Susanna, daughter of John and Barbara Minnich, residents of Montgomery Co. afterward of this county; he settled on 152 acres of land, where he now resides, in 1861; it is now all in a good state of cultivation, with good improvements, all the fruit of his and his good wife's hard labor. Four children are the fruits of this union, of whom two are living, Barbara and John; the deceased are Mary and Ira. Mr. and Mrs. Brenner have been members of the German Baptist Church for sixteen years, and are worthy Christian people, and delight in discharging every Christian duty. To our subject and John Ditmore, whose sketch appear in this work, belongs the credit of making the first open ditch in Monroe Township in 1862 or 1863.

JOHN S. BROWN, farmer; P. O. Gordon; one of the old settlers of Darke Co.; he was born in Warren Co., Ohio, March 25, 1828, and is a son of Joseph and Mary Brown; his father was born in Virginia, in 1800, and removed to Warren Co. in 1811, and was one of the early pioneers of the Miami Valley; he learned the blacksmith trade at the age of 18, which business he followed there, and removed to Darke Co. in this township, in 1830, and was one of the sturdy ones who gave improvement and civilization a start in the great wilderness of Ohio; he followed farming and blacksmithing, till, within a few years of his death, he became disabled and was obliged to leave the field of labor; lived an invalid for five years,





and died Aug. 30, 1874. His mother was born in Warren Co.; her parents were John and Elizabeth Snorph, natives of Maryland: Mr. Snorph died in Montgomery Co., aged about 86 years; Mrs. Snorph departed this life in Warren Co., aged about 60 years. Our subject assisted his father in agricultural pursuits till his 21st year of age, when he began life for himself, and engaged in farming. He was united in marriage with Sarah J., daughter of John and Hannah Patterson, Aug. 17, 1848; her father was born in Pennsylvania in 1803, and removed to Cincinnati with his parents when he was 7 years old, thence to Warren Co.; from there to Montgomery Co., where he married Miss Hannah Witham, and resided there upward of thirty years, then moved to West Baltimore, and resided here till his death, which occurred Jan. 17, 1874; Mrs. Patterson died in Montgomery Co., May 12, 1862, aged 58 years. After his marriage our subject engaged in farming in this township for three years, when he removed to Preble Co., and carried on a farm for a short time, thence back to the place where he now resides; he settled on 80 acres of land partly in the woods, but, by hard labor and good management, he cleared it and got it in condition to receive the improved implements of agricultural labor; he has since, in 1858, purchased 80 acres more land, and now owns 160 acres here in a body—all in a good state of cultivation, with good improvements. His large brick house presents a striking contrast to the little cabin that stands in the yard, which was once their abode. Mr. Brown is an example of one of our self-made men, having begun life with no capital, but by hard work, industry and good management, he has accomplished the great object in life—made a good home, and is surrounded by all the comforts of life, in which to spend his declining years; in all his struggles and privations, such as pioneers know, he has been nobly assisted by his amiable and industrious wife, and both are enjoying the fruits of their hard-earned labor. They are the parents of fourteen children, viz.: James M., born Jan. 7, 1849; Mary J., June 13, 1850; Ellen C., Feb. 22, 1852; John, Sept. 3, 1853; George W., Feb. 18, 1855; Julia, March 13, 1857; Albert, Feb. 24, 1858; Dora E., April 1, 1860; Arthur, May 7, 1862; Nellie, March 11, 1864; Libbie, August 22, 1866; Nina and Eddie (twins), Oct. 3, 1868; Norman L., Dec. 15, 1871; Julia died April 1, 1857; James M., died Jan. 25, 1869; George W., died March 16, 1869; Eddie, died March 28, 1869; Nellie, died Aug. 12, 1869; Nina, died April 30, 1870; Mary J., *nee* Mrs. William Ibach, died July 12, 1870; Albert, died Oct. 21, 1871; John F., married Martha J. Werts, Nov. 15, 1877; Ellenora, married Samuel Barkalow, Feb. 11, 1873; Mary J., united in marriage with William Ibach, Feb. 3, 1870. Mrs. Brown was born Feb. 22, 1827. Although Mr. Brown has been very unfortunate in rearing his large family, he has been one of the few fortunate ones, having only been sick once in his life, and then with the ague, and he informs us he was never off his feet, and is still hearty and strong though hard work and exposure have bent his frame and iron will, his faculties are unimpaired.

WILLIAM CASSELL, minister and farmer; Sec. 4; P. O. Arcanum. The subject of this memoir was born in Baltimore, Md., February 3, 1826; he is a son of Leonard and Mariah Cassell, natives of Maryland; his father was born in 1800 and has resided in Baltimore continuously for seventy-seven years; his mother died in 1835. Our subject resided with his parents till he was 12 years of age, when he went to Carroll Co., Md., and labored on a farm till his 21st year; he then removed to Montgomery Co., Ohio; here he entered the ministry, a field of labor that needed just such material as Mr. C. possessed, for fearlessly and uncomplainingly has he discharged every duty, kept inviolate every trust; his calling has carried him from the influences of home and friends, and he has preached the Gospel in all of the following States: Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, Indiana, Tennessee, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Michigan, New York, Kentucky, Virginia and West Virginia; by estimate, he has preached two thousand two hundred sermons; has consummated fifty-five marriages; for his labors in the ministry he has never received a cent, and is willing to go on to the end, and receive his





reward from the hands of One, who rewards not with script, but with a free gift of righteousness and forgiveness of sins, a reward more valuable than the wealth of kingdoms; he is an Elder of the Painter Creek and Ludlow German Baptist Church, which is an extensive organization, numbering about four hundred members, and in this denomination has he labored nearly all his life, and is universally loved and respected by all. He celebrated his marriage with Miss Lucinda, daughter of Daniel and Mary Cauffman, Aug. 14, 1851; twelve children have been given to this union, viz.: Jesse, born Oct. 13, 1852; Mary A., born Feb. 23, 1854; Catherine, born Jan. 1, 1856; Martha, born Sept. 22, 1857; Albert, born Nov. 20, 1858; Sarah, born Oct. 6, 1860; Harvey, born Sept. 26, 1862; Emma, born May 14, 1864; Anna, born March 15, 1866; William E., born Dec. 13, 1870; Ida M., born Jan. 1, 1873; Irvin, born March 8, 1874; Catherine, died Jan. 4, 1864; Martha departed this life July 12, 1860; Anna died March 1, 1869. Mrs. Cassell was born Sept. 8, 1832. Of Mr. Cauffman's family there were ten children, of whom six are living, viz.: Elizabeth, Benjamin, Frederick, Catherine, Lucinda and Rachel; the deceased are, Jacob, died February 1842, and three others during infancy. Leonard Cassell and his wife were the parents of seven children, viz.: Joseph, James, deceased, Leonard, Elijah, Mariah and Mary. Our subject has 80 acres of farm land, all in good state of cultivation, with good comfortable buildings erected thereon.

JOSEPH DITMER, farmer; P. O., Gordon; was born in Montgomery Co., Aug. 31, 1828; he is a son of Frederick and Salome Ditmer: his father was born in Somerset Co., Penn., Sept. 17, 1783; his mother was born in Maryland, Dec. 22, 1791; both removed to Montgomery County, before their marriage; lived, died, and are buried in the home of their adoption. Our subject assisted his father on the farm till he was 28 years of age, and then he began life for himself, and worked the old home place in partnership with his brother David for five years after the death of his father, when he removed to Darke County, to this township, and rented a farm for one year, and then, in 1859, he moved to the farm where he now resides, when it was a perfect wilderness, all in the green woods, with no improvements; going to work with a will and determination, assisted by his industrious wife, they succeeded, after years of hard work, in clearing their land; have made good improvements, and are contemplating building a large brick residence this year. He was united in marriage with Eva, daughter of Abraham and Rebecca Wellbaum, Nov. 30, 1854; her parents were natives of Lancaster Co., Penn., afterward residents of Montgomery and Darke Counties; her father died at the age of 60 years 6 months and 12 days; her mother, now Mrs. Martin, resides in Union City, aged 73 years. Mr. and Mrs. Ditmer are the parents of six children, viz.: Sarah A., born Sept. 11, 1855; Mary, born on Aug. 14, 1857; Moses, born March 19, 1860; Fianna, born Jan. 24, 1866; William H., born July 6, 1871; Allen E., born March 17, 1877; the deceased are Sarah, died Feb. 15, 1863, aged 7 years 5 months and 4 days; Frederick Ditmer, died Feb. 27, 1850, aged 65 years 5 months and 10 days; Salome Ditmer, departed this life May 4, 1878, aged 86 years 4 months and 12 days. Mr. Ditmer has held the office of School Director in his township; he and his wife have been members of the German Baptist Church for fifteen years, and are good Christian people; his grandfather, Frederick Ditmer, was a Revolutionary soldier, and belonged to a Pennsylvania Provincial regiment, and in one of the engagements of the war, he with two brothers, both soldiers, were standing together in consultation, when the one in the middle was instantly killed by a cannon ball, literally torn in fragments, presenting a horrible and sickening sight to his two surviving brothers. Our subject's parents were members of the German Baptist Church for many years, and died in the triumph of their faith. Mrs. Wellbaum was also a member of the same church.

GEORGE DITMORE, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 12; P. O., Arcanum. One of the old settlers of Darke Co.; was born in Montgomery Co. in 1813, and is a son of Jacob and Elizabeth Ditmore, natives of Pennsylvania; his father was born in Somerset Co., his mother in Lancaster Co., and removed to Montgomery Co. at





a very early day. Our subject assisted his father in the duties of the farm till he was 15 years old, when he apprenticed himself and learned the carpenter's trade which he followed for sixteen years ; then he engaged in farming, and removed to Darke Co. in April, 1851. He first settled on 80 acres of rented land, partly cleared, and remained on this farm for four years, then removed to the place where he now resides ; he first purchased 120 acres of land, all in the woods, and, like others who settled in Darke Co. in an early day, had plenty to do, and he informs us he and his wife labored many times till far into the night before they got their farm in a state for cultivation. In 1861, he purchased 80 acres adjoining the home farm. In 1858, he bought 60 acres in Van Buren Township ; afterward purchased 80 acres more in this township, and 50 acres more in Van Buren Township. When he began, his capital consisted of one yearling colt and 25 cents in money ; this was the nucleus around which he gathered his fortune ; though insignificant as it was, it shows that fortunes are the growth of these small germs, when properly nourished, and, in this instance, we must recollect that Mr. Ditmore labored against many disadvantages. There are many young men who would have consumed his small capital with a few trifling expenses, but the outgrowth, through his management, has developed itself into quite a fortune, and he and his good wife are now enjoying the refreshing shades of retirement, the reward of their many self-denials. He celebrated his marriage with Miss Catherine, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Fryman, Aug. 8, 1831. They were natives of Maryland. Seven children are the fruits of this union, viz., John, born Aug. 4, 1834 ; Levi, born Jan. 14, 1836 ; Lavina, born Aug. 25, 1837 ; Israel, born Aug. 12, 1840 ; George, born May 10, 1842 ; Catherine, born March 31, 1846 ; one dying in infancy. Israel died Oct. 13, 1855. Our subject has been Township Treasurer and School Director for many years, and he and his wife are members of the German Baptist Church, and are consistent Christian people.

**JOHN M. DITMORE**, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 12 ; P. O. Arcanum. The subject of this memoir was born in Montgomery Co. Aug. 4, 1834, and is a son of George Ditmore, whose sketch appears in this work ; he helped his father on the farm till he was 23 years of age, and he was only 12 years old when he came to this county, and has been a continuous resident here ever since. He was united in marriage to Mary, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Foreman, Oct. 23, 1856 ; three children were given to this union, viz., Jacob, born Nov. 29, 1859 ; Levi, Nov. 12, 1857 ; George, June 29, 1861 ; Levi died April 22, 1860 ; George departed this life July 16, 1862 ; Mrs. Ditmore died Nov. 25, 1861. He was united with Mrs. Cuning, a daughter of the Rev. Mr. Wendall Minnich, a bishop of the German Baptist Church, and a pioneer preacher of this county, Aug. 24, 1862 ; eight children have been given to this union, viz., Noah, born May 26, 1863 ; John A. Feb. 13, 1865 ; William H., June 12, 1866 ; Daniel E., March 20, 1868 ; Amanda, Sept. 16, 1869 ; Malinda B., March 11, 1871 ; Sarah A., July 30, 1874 ; Ira C., Sept. 27, 1876 ; one dying in infancy. Mr. Cuning was born June 18, 1832, and died Jan. 20, 1859, leaving two children, viz., Mary C., born Jan. 24, 1858, now Mrs. Godown ; Anna L., July 29, 1859. Mrs. Ditmore was born Nov. 11, 1833. Our subject has 80 acres of as good land as there is in Darke Co., all in a high state of cultivation, with good, comfortable improvements, the fruit of his own hard labor, he and his wife have been members of the German Baptist Church upward of twenty years, and are model Christian people.

**NOAH FRYMAN**, farmer, Sec. 13 ; P. O. Arcanum. One of the old settlers of Darke County, and was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Aug. 2, 1835, and is a son of Jacob and Catherine Fryman, both old residents of Montgomery County. Our subject was reared a farmer's boy, and labored on his father's farm till his 21st year, when he began life for himself, and followed the occupation he was reared to. He removed to Darke County in 1848, and settled on Sec. 6, where he remained till 1859, and then removed to the place where he now resides. He first settled on 40 acres of wild land that took years of toil and privation before he





had it in a condition that makes farm labor agreeable and profitable; by great industry and good management, he added to his little farm, till now he owns 125 acres of choice farming land, all in a high state of cultivation. He has been very successful in life, and through his own exertion he has made the greater part of his possessions. He celebrated his marriage with Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Nicholas and Leah Niswonger, April 5, 1859. Her parents were residents of this township. Her father was killed Sept. 16, 1864; her mother died in 1839. Mr. and Mrs. Fryman are the parents of ten children, viz., George, born Jan. 9, 1860; Ananias, born March 17, 1861; Nicholas, born May 9, 1864; Mary C., born Dec. 17, 1866; Lewis, born Jan. 10, 1870; Hetta, born June 24, 1877; one son and three daughters died in infancy; Mrs. Fryman was born April 27, 1840. Our subject is greatly interested in educational matters, and delights in educating his children. He and his amiable wife have been members of the German Baptist Church for a period of twenty years, and are generous Christian people.

ELIZABETH A. GARRISON; P. O. Gordon. The subject of this memoir was born in Baltimore, Md., Feb. 12, 1817, and is a daughter of William L. and Ann (Armstrong) Pierce, natives of Maryland; her grandfather was a minister of the Gospel, and represented the Methodist Episcopal Church; Mr. Pierce was a baker by trade; he learned his trade in Philadelphia, with his Uncle Hayward, and did business on Great York St., Baltimore, for three years, when he died very suddenly, aged about 28 years; after the death of her husband, Mrs. Pierce continued to live in Baltimore for about five years, when she united in marriage with Joseph Sharp, when they removed to Butler Co., Ohio. Mr. Sharp was a shoemaker, but purchased a tract of land in Darke. They remained in Butler Co. one year, then moved to Milton, where they remained one year; thence to Darke Co., where our subject has ever since continued to reside, covering a space of time since 1840. She was united in marriage with Nicholas Mays Dec. 5, 1833; four children were given to this union, viz.: Emily A., born Oct. 16, 1834; Daniel, born Sept. 14, 1836; Martha, born Nov. 1, 1838; Clarissa, born Nov. 6, 1840. Mr. Mays departed this life March 10, 1841, aged about 40 years. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Mays continued on the farm till her marriage with Samuel Thompson, which occurred April 9, 1844, and then left the home place and went with her husband to his home, but Mr. Thompson only lived a short time after his marriage, when he was stricken down with a congestive chill, and was a corpse just eighteen months after his marriage with Mrs. Mays. One child was given to this union, viz.: Minerva, born Jan. 10, 1846. When her husband was laid in the grave, she moved back to the Mays farm, her previous residence, where she remained for six years, when she was again united in marriage, with Leonard Garrison, June 19, 1852; four children are the fruits of this union, viz.: Maria E., born May 16, 1853; Loretta, born Dec. 27, 1854; Amanda, born July 24, 1857; William L., born May 4, 1859. Mr. Garrison departed this life July 24, 1871. Emily (Mays) Penny died Nov. 6, 1866; Daniel Mays, died March 25, 1839; Minerva (Thompson) Bollinger, departed this life Feb. 18, 1875; Martha Garrison, died Feb. 15, 1877. Truly the death messenger has made frequent calls upon the family of Mrs. Garrison, but with true Christian spirit, she submits to the will of her Master, and through her faith she sees the gateway of entrance whereby she can be re-united with the loved ones that have gone before. She has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since 1832, and was happily converted at a camp-meeting in Baltimore, and, through all these years, her faith has never weakened, nor her reliance on the promises of her Savior ever grown dim.

SILAS GILBERT, farmer, Sec. 5; P. O. Arcanum. The subject of this memoir was born in Frederick Co., Md., Nov. 20, 1845, and is a son of Solomon and Sarah Gilbert, natives of Maryland. Solomon Gilbert was born in April, 1818; Mrs. Gilbert in December, 1819; they were the parents of seven children, of whom three are living, viz., Julia, Silas, the subject of this sketch, and William S.; they emigrated from Maryland to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in the fall of 1847,





and settled on the same section where he now resides. Our subject assisted his father in the duties of the farm until he was 21 years of age, and then began life for himself, and engaged in farming in Montgomery County until 1869, and then removed to Darke County in 1870, and settled on the place where he now resides. He first purchased 82 acres of land, with no improvements, but has built a fine residence, a large barn, and made other improvements that make his home attractive and pleasant; he has recently purchased 25 acres of land near the home place, and now owns 107 acres of as fine land as is to be found in Darke County. He celebrated his marriage with Miss Frances, daughter of John and Sarah Resler, June 3, 1866; they were natives of Virginia, and settled in Montgomery Co. in 1845. Mr. Resler died in 1847; his wife died near Muncie, Ind., in 1858 or 1859; they were the parents of seven children, of whom five are living, viz.: John, resides in Miami Co.; James M., lives in Springfield, Ohio; Lucy A., now Mrs. McGowan, resides in Dayton; Caroline, now Mrs. Baker, lives in Montgomery Co.; Frances, wife of the subject of this sketch. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert are the parents of seven children, viz.: Sarah J., born Oct. 10, 1868; Julia C., Dec. 7, 1870; Orin S., Feb. 22, 1874; Mary C., June 28, 1876; Cora E., Feb. 1, 1879, two dying in infancy. Mr. Gilbert had only the advantage of a good common-school education, but is greatly interested in educational matters, and is a contributor to the press, his articles always being honored by the same. He has been a member of the German Baptist Church for fifteen years, and is a Deacon of the Church. Mrs. Gilbert has been in the same church for eighteen years and is an energetic, consistent Christian woman.

**PHILIP HANGEN**, retired farmer, Sec. 28; P. O. Center, Montgomery Co., Ohio. The subject of this memoir was born in Brissin, Germany, Nov. 3, 1817, and is a son of John and Margaret Hangen, natives of the same place. His father died at the age of 75 years and 11 months; his mother at the age of 45 years. Our subject assisted his father in the blacksmith-shop until he was 28 years of age, when he celebrated his marriage with Miss Catherine, daughter of P. and Mary (Yost) Herman, Aug. 26, 1845. He then began life for himself, and followed his trade for nine years in Germany, when he emigrated to this country, and landed in New York on the 9th or 10th of April in 1854; came to Ohio and settled in Miamisburg, where he lived one year, and then removed to near Gordon, in Darke County, and worked at his trade for a few years, and then moved to the place where he now resides in 1860. He now owns 170 acres of as fine land as is to be found in Darke County, all in a good state of cultivation. His improvements are No. 1 in every particular. When our subject left Gordon, in 1860, his worldly wealth consisted of \$40 in money and a span of horses. Buying his farm entirely on time, he succeeded in paying the whole amount in about two or three years, an example of what can be accomplished when energy and good management are brought to bear on points of issue. He and his good wife are now in the possession of a good home, surrounded by all the comforts of life, and are resting from their labors, for their day's work is done, and in the shades of retirement are enjoying their declining years. They are the parents of ten children, viz.: Phillip H., born Oct. 4, 1846; Christian, born March 15, 1850; John, born Sept. 2, 1853; Jacob, born June 26, 1855; William and Henry (twins), born July 4, 1857; Harmon, born Oct. 4, 1859. The deceased are Mary, born Aug. 17, 1848, *nee* Mrs. Henry Bridenbaugh, died Dec. 25, 1871; Catherine, born Nov. 26, 1851, died Jan. 18, 1855; Henry, died April 12, 1860. Mr. Hangen has filled the office of Trustee for four years. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church, and are good, Christian people. Their children are also members of the same church.

**CHRISTIAN HANGEN**, farmer, Sec. 28; P. O. Center, Montgomery Co. The subject of this sketch was born in Brissin, Germany, March 15, 1850, and is a son of Philip Hangen, whose sketch appears in this work; he emigrated from Germany, with his parents, when he was but 3 years old, and followed the fortunes of





his parents till he was 26 years of age, giving his labor entire to the benefit of the family. He was united in marriage with Miss Sarah, daughter of J. and Margaret Myers, Nov. 23. 1876. Mr. Myers was born in Enshaem Bavaria, Germany, April 8, 1807, and departed this life in Miami Co., aged 63 years 11 months and 15 days. Mrs. Myers was born in the same place, April 29. 1808, and is a daughter of Nicholas Hale; she is still living, and resides with her daughter, Mrs. Hangen; her parents first settled in Cincinnati, and kept a boarding-house for nine months, then removed to Miami Co. and purchased 143 acres of land that is still in possession of the family. Mrs. Hangen was born in Miami Co. April 8, 1855; she and her husband are members of the Lutheran Church, and, like their parents, are consistent Christian people, and are interested in the church. They are the parents of two children, viz.: Charles P., born Nov. 9, 1878; Lillian W., born Sept. 11, 1879. Mr. and Mrs. Myers were the parents of nine children, of whom seven are living, viz.: John, who resides in Michigan; Daniel, who lives in Miami Co.; Charles, who resides in Montgomery Co.; Michael, who lives in Montgomery Co.; Margaret, now Mrs. Schauer, who lives in Union City, Ind.; Jacob, who resides in Sedgwick City, Kan., and Sarah, wife of the subject of our sketch.

ELIAS HART, farmer, Sec. 19; P. O. Gordon. The subject of this memoir was born in Warren Co., Sept. 30. 1830, and is a son of George W. and Rachel Hart, natives of New Jersey, afterward residents of Warren Co.; his father died in Hamilton Co. in 1840, aged about 43 years; his mother died in Darke Co., aged upward of 70 years. Our subject was reared on the farm till 6 years of age, when his parents removed to Ohio. After his father's death, he followed various pursuits—followed farming in Montgomery Co.; thence to Preble Co., for about seven years, and was engaged in farming; thence to Darke Co., in the spring of 1865, where he now resides. He bought 84 acres of land, partly in the woods, and has relieved the surface of all hinderances to farming, and his land is all in a good state of cultivation, his improvements comfortable in every particular. He celebrated his marriage with Miss Ann, daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Baker, Nov. 1, 1855; her parents were natives of Montgomery Co.; five children have been given to this union, viz.: Lillian, born July 3, 1856; Rachel, born Oct. 25, 1859; Ellen M., born May 19, 1861; George W., born Feb. 14, 1864; Charles R., born Aug. 10, 1872. Mr. Hart has been identified in his township's offices, and is now one of the Township Trustees, has been Supervisor for six terms, and filled the office of School Director many terms; his constituents have elected him to other offices, but, being no political aspirant, he has declined. Mrs. Hart is a member of the German Baptist Church, and a consistent Christian woman.

JOHN M. HENNINGER, retired farmer; P. O. Gordon. The subject of this memoir was born in Wittenburg, Germany, Nov. 19, 1804, and is a son of Christian and Mary Henninger, natives of Germany, who lived and died in the place of their nativity at advanced ages; his father was a school teacher by profession, and was one of the leading educators in Germany. Our subject lived with his father till he was 16 years of age, when he learned the baker's trade, which he followed for five years, and then turned his attention to farming, which he followed for ten years; he emigrated from his native home in August, 1847, to America, and landed in New York in September of the same year—his voyage occupying twenty-eight days; he came directly to Ohio and settled in Darke County; he purchased 120 acres of land in this township, mostly in the woods; went to work at it with a will and energy that is characteristic of our German citizens, and, after years of toil and privations, succeeded in getting his land in a good state of cultivation, and had good average improvements thereon; this he sold at the expiration of seven years and purchased 160 acres, where he now resides; this was all in the woods, but by his accustomed skill and industry he soon cleared it of its heavy growth of timber, and his land is now in a high state of cultivation, and has fair improvements erected thereon; he began life in America with only a capital of \$700, and, by industry and good management, he has a pretty home in which to





end his declining years ; he informs us that his good wife has bravely assisted him in all the arduous duties of life and has borne her full share of the trials in the struggle since their pathways were united. He was united in marriage with Barbara, daughter of Michael and Barbara (Schiller) Creeb, Nov. 22. 1829, and by this union have had twelve children, viz. : Barbara, born June 1. 1830, now Mrs. Daller, and resides in Dayton ; John, born Sept. 23. 1832, and died Nov. 15. 1856 ; John F., born Aug. 22. 1834, died January 16, 1857 ; John H., born Feb. 29, 1836, died Nov. 20, 1857 ; Margaret, born April 21. 1837, now Mrs. Scheiding ; Sophia C., born Aug. 31. 1838, died Nov. 23, 1858 ; Rosanna C., born April 2. 1831, died Sept. 20, 1856 ; Catharine, born Nov. 22. 1839, died Sept. 22, 1858 ; Charles, born June 6, 1841 ; Frederick W., born March 7, 1843, died March 24. 1843 ; John, born Sept. 23, 1848 ; Frederick, born April 17. 1851, died in August, 1858 ; Mrs. Henninger was born Aug. 29, 1808. Mr. and Mrs. Henninger, with their children, are members of the Lutheran Church, and are earnest Christian people.

**JACOB HINSEY**, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 1 ; P. O. Arcanum ; one of the old settlers of Darke County, he was born in Cumberland Co., Penn., in 1816, and is a son of John and Mariah Hinsey, natives of Lancaster Co., Penn. Our subject assisted his father on the farm till he was 25 years old, when he removed to Ohio with his parents and settled just below Hamilton, and resided here for four years, when he removed to Montgomery County, where he remained till 1849, when he came to Darke County, where he now resides ; he first purchased 82 acres of land, which he has cleared up and improved, and in addition, owns a fine lot in Arcanum ; his father died at the age of 84 years, and his mother at the age of 80 ; he celebrated his marriage with Catherine daughter of Jacob Baker, in 1840, and by this union had eight children, viz., Susanna, Mahala, Sarah, Catherine and Samuel ; three deceased : some time after the death of his first wife, he celebrated his marriage with Elizabeth Smith, who was born in Berks Co., Penn. ; two children have been given to this union, viz., Mariah E. and William. he has been a member of the German Baptist Church for sixteen years ; is one of our self-made men, having begun life with \$1 in his pocket, but owed just 50 cents more than his cash assets.

**ABRAHAM HUNT**, blacksmith, Sec. 4 ; P. O. Laura, Miami Co., Ohio. The subject of this sketch was born in Miami Co. Dec. 3, 1834, and is a son of Elijah and Susanna Hunt ; he assisted his father in the labors of the farm till his 23d year, when he began life for himself, and chose Darke County as a proper place of settlement, as well as a suitable place for his business ; he operated a thrashing machine in this county for ten years, and was very successful ; he next resumed his trade (blacksmithing), which he learned in Miami County, in which business he is at present engaged. He celebrated his marriage with Miss Elizabeth, daughter of George and Nancy Funderburg, March 19. 1856 ; her father was born in 1802, and still resides in Miami County ; Mrs. Funderburg was born in January, 1803, and died at the age of 67 years ; they were the parents of eleven children of whom seven are living—Noah, Sarah (now Mrs. Timmons), Susanna (now Mrs. Wellbaum), Henry, Elizabeth (wife of the subject of our sketch), Nancy (now Mrs. Aldridge), Catherine (now Mrs. Altie), Mary (now Mrs. Aailhart), Barbara (now Mrs. Christe). Mr. Hunt has been identified in most of the local offices of the township, having served as Justice of the Peace, Supervisor, Constable, Assessor and School Director, his constituents having elected him many times to fill the same offices, which is ample proof of his executive ability, and of giving perfect satisfaction to his fellow-townsmen : they are the parents of four children, viz. Isaac A., born Feb. 27, 1858 ; Philonzo, Feb. 24. 1860 ; Susanna J., Feb. 26, 1871 ; Daniel, Aug. 24, 1865, and departed this life Dec. 13, 1865.

**RICHARD M. HUNT**, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 5 ; P. O. Laura, Miami Co., Ohio ; the subject of this sketch was born in Miami Co., Ohio, in May, 1837, and is a son of Elijah and Susanna Hunt, old residents of Miami Co. ; he assisted his father in the duties of the farm till his 21st year, when he began life for





himself, and engaged in farming; he settled in Monroe Township, where he now lives, in October, 1859, and has 80 acres of good land, all in a high state of cultivation, and his improvements are No. 1 in every respect; our subject only had the advantage of a common-school education, but by making good use of his time he succeeded in obtaining a fair education in the English branches, and is making strenuous efforts to give his children a good education. He was united in marriage with Rebecca, daughter of Jacob and Susanna Oakes, in November, 1858; two children were given to this union, viz.: Eunice A., born Nov. 9, 1861; Osborne T., born Oct. 4, 1863; Mrs. Hunt departed this life Dec. 24, 1865; was born Feb. 3, 1840; she was a member of the Christian Church, and died trusting in the promises of her Savior; Mr. Hunt was again united in marriage with Sarah J., daughter of Samuel and Rosanna Hayworth, Dec. 15, 1867; her parents were natives of Miami Co., Ohio; eight children have been given to this union viz.: Parlena, born Dec. 20, 1868; Dora E., born Jan. 31, 1870; Mary E., born July 13, 1871; Rosella, born April 21, 1873; Albert L., born Jan. 8, 1875; Marcellus, born Feb. 13, 1877; Otwell, born Feb. 24, 1878; one dying in infancy; Parlena departed this life July 13, 1873; Rosella died Dec. 15, —.

RALPH HUNT, farmer, Sec. 5; P. O. Laura, Miami Co. The subject of this memoir was born in Miami Co. March 27, 1824, and is the eldest son of Elijah and Susanna Hunt, old residents of Miami Co., but natives of South Carolina; his father was born Dec. 18, 1800, and was a continuous resident of Miami Co. for nearly sixty years; he removed to Iowa in 1855 or 1856, and died in the winter of 1858; his mother was born Sept. 3, 1806, and departed this life Nov. 29, 1841. In a very early day, the early pioneers of Miami Co. were visited by a terrible and destructive hurricane; their cabins were hurled from their foundation like so much chaff, large trees were uprooted and thrown down, stock and people alike suffered from the fury of this storm. Mr. Hunt's grandmother was terribly injured by the falling trees, and two of her children were blown in among the tree tops and killed, one was impaled on a limb, and its body was taken down after the fury of the storm. Our subject lived in Miami Co. about twenty-two years, and was engaged in farming, and removed to Darke Co., where he now resides, in 1846. He first settled on 80 acres of wild land, and went to work with his ax to remove the vast quantity of timber and underbrush—to prepare it for the implements of agriculture—and by dint of hard labor he has accomplished his purpose, and now owns 123 acres of choice farming land, well improved. He has a vivid recollection of the great star shower of Nov. 13, 1833, and he informs us the air was full of the descending meteors, and, was literally a rain of fire from the heavens; many people of a superstitious nature thought that the last day had come—that Gabriel with his trumpet was at hand to speak the summons of departure. He was united in marriage with Sophia Walker, Aug. 30, 1845; they were the parents of seven children, viz.: Henry, born July 25, 1846; Elijah, born Oct. 4, 1848; Abraham, born June 6, 1850; Susanna, born Dec. 18, 1851; Phœbe J., born Oct. 24, 1853; Theodore, born Jan. 18, 1855; Arlistus, born Sept. 18, 1857; Wesley, born March 16, 1859. Mrs. Hunt departed this life April 26, 1859; Elijah, died Aug. 27, 1849; Susanna, died March 21, 1871; Wesley, died Aug. 16, 1859. He was again united in marriage with Lydia Walker, by whom he had eight children, viz.: John W., born Jan. 1, 1861, died Sept. 14, 1861; Ida A., born Jan. 6, 1862, died Aug. 28, 1862; Delmont, born Jan. 22, 1863, died March 27, 1863; Sophia E., born April 11, 1864; James A., born May 18, 1865; Martha A., born Dec. 17, 1866; Charles M., born Feb. 3, 1868; Albert, born Nov. 29, 1869, died Sept. 21, 1870; Mrs. Hunt departed this life May 1, 1874. He was again married, to Rachel Walker, Feb. 19, 1876. Mr. Hunt has been identified in most all the township offices, which is ample proof of his executive ability, and of satisfaction being given to his fellow-townsmen; he is one of our liberal Christians, and believes in doing right, and knows it can be done regardless of creeds or denominations.





**JOHN KRESS**, farmer; P. O. Gordon. The subject of this memoir was born in Wittenburg, Germany, June 15, 1825, and is a son of George M. and Mary Ann Kress, natives of Germany. Our subject assisted his father in the duties of the farm till his 16th year, when he learned the baker's trade, which he followed five years, and then abandoned on account of injury to his eyes, caused by the excessive heat; he emigrated to America in July 1849, and landed in New York City, his voyage occupying forty days; immediately after landing, he started for Ohio, and in Darke Co. he went to work as a farm hand for one year, then to Montgomery Co. and labored another year, when he rented a farm for five years thence to Preble Co. where he rented for one year, and was now able to buy land, came to Darke Co. and purchased 80 acres in Sec. 20; it was mostly in the woods, but by his own hard labor he cleared and improved and made a No. 1 farm the result of his industry and good management; he lived on this farm upward of nineteen years, when he purchased 80 acres on Sec. 19, in 1868; this was partly in the woods with no improvements, but he has cleared it and built a large house, barn, and made other improvements of such a nature that to-day he has the best farm buildings in Monroe Township, and his land is in a high state of cultivation; he was united in marriage with Eve Henkle, Nov. 13, 1851; ten children have been given to this union, viz.: Noah, born Sept. 8, 1852; Henry, born July 16, 1854; Eve R., born Feb. 17, 1856; Anna M., born July 3, 1857; George C., born Nov. 21, 1858; John M., born Nov. 23, 1860; Lewis, born July 14, 1862; Samuel, born Sept. 28, 1864; Charley, born July 24, 1866; Frederick A., born July 28, 1870. Noah was married to Belle, daughter of Elias Harte; Anna M. was united in marriage with Aaron Davenport; they reside on the farm Mr. Kress first purchased. Mr. Kress has been identified in his township's offices, having served his neighbors and friends in the capacity of Trustee for five years in succession, Pike Superintendent for three years, School Director for four years, and in all he has discharged his duty fearlessly, and to the satisfaction of his constituents. Both Mr. and Mrs. Kress are members of the Lutheran Church, and are good, consistent, Christian people; they have been very fortunate in rearing their large family of children, having lost none by death, and we believe he and Mr. Shank, whose sketch appears in this work, are the only ones in this township that can say as much.

**JOHN J. KUHNLE**, farmer, Sec. 18; P. O. Gordon. The subject of this memoir was born in Wittenburg, Germany, in 1821, and is the son of Philip and Julia Kuhnle, natives of Germany; our subject assisted his father in agricultural pursuits till he was 28 years of age; in 1848, he emigrated to America; he came to Montgomery Co., Ohio, where he resided for sixteen years and engaged in farming, then he came to Darke Co., where he purchased 80 acres of land in 1865; his land shows good cultivation, and his improvements are good and substantial; in 1872, he purchased 50 acres adjoining his home farm, and now owns 130 acres of valuable land. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary, daughter of Mr. Henkle, in 1851; five children have been given to this union, viz.: Elizabeth, born March 31, 1852; Caroline, Dec. 31, 1853; Eve, Aug. 29, 1857; Victoria, March 5, 1864; William, Oct. 8, 1868; Elizabeth was married April 1, 1872, to Adam Kohns; Mrs. Kuhnle departed this life July 27, 1877, and her remains are interred in the Gordon Cemetery; she was born Jan. 25, 1832.

**SUSANAH LONG**; P. O. Potsdam, Ohio. The subject of this memoir was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Feb. 13, 1823, and is a daughter of David and Elizabeth Smith; they were born in Pennsylvania and removed to Montgomery County in a very early day, and were among the early pioneers of that county; her father died at the age of 48, and her mother at the age of 62 years; they were the parents of seven children, of whom five are living, viz.: John S., Solomon, Mary, Esther, and the subject of this sketch, who was united in marriage with Abraham Long, now deceased, May 14, 1846; they resided in Montgomery Co. for sixteen years after their marriage, when they removed to Darke Co., where she now resides; she owns 80 acres of land where she resides.





all in a good state of cultivation, with good average improvements erected thereon. Mr. Long was born in Pennsylvania Feb. 18, 1818, and departed this life May 25, 1863; he was a son of Abraham and Ann Long, natives of Pennsylvania, afterward residents of Montgomery Co.; they died at advanced ages; they were the parents of five children, viz., Christian, Elizabeth, Nancy, Fanny and Abraham. Mr. and Mrs. Long are the parents of thirteen children, of whom eight are living, viz.: John, born Feb. 28, 1847; Henry, Aug. 6, 1848; Rose A., Jan. 26, 1858; Joseph, Sept. 27, 1854; David, July 11, 1856; Ellen M., June 21, 1859; Daniel, Dec. 14, 1860. The deceased are—Elizabeth, born Jan. 1, 1850 (died May 9, 1878, *nee* Mrs. Aaron Pearson, leaving two children, viz., Esty, born Feb. 13, 1872, and Ellis, born Sept. 1, 1873: both are adopted by their grandmother); Noah, born May 17, 1851, and died in infancy; Moses, born March 17, 1852, also died in infancy; Sarah J., born March 26, 1853, and died Sept. 6, 1877; Esther, born Sept. 27, 1854, and died Aug. 1, 1855; William, born July 11, 1862, and departed this life Dec. 18, 1863. Mrs. Long has been a member of the Christian Church for twenty-four years, and is an exemplary Christian woman, and though her sorrows and bereavements have been many, her Christian fortitude has never forsaken her, but to the contrary, each affliction has added strength to the chain of tender ties that connect her with departed loved ones.

FREDERICK MILLER, farmer, Sec. 6; P. O. Arcanum, was born in Germany in 1823 and emigrated to America in 1846, and landed in New York in June. He came to Montgomery Co., where he worked at the mason trade for about two years, and then removed to Darke Co. in 1850, and settled in Franklin Township, where he purchased 120 acres of land. He resided here about fourteen years, when he sold out and moved to Monroe Township, where he now resides, and purchased 165 acres of land. It was partly in the woods, but he has cleared it all, and his land now is in a good state of cultivation, with good, comfortable buildings thereon. He was united in marriage Jan. 18, 1849, with Susanna, daughter of Jacob and Susanna Flory, natives of Pennsylvania; six children are the fruits of this union, viz.: Mary A., born March 24, 1850; Susanna A., born Oct. 28, 1851; Jennie, born June 10, 1853, died Oct. 21, 1860; John F., born Oct. 24, 1856; Ammala, born March 23, 1860; Barbara M., born Jan. 8, 1863. Mr. Miller's father was born in Germany in 1792, and died at the age of 83 years. His mother, Mary J. (Gieser) Miller was born in 1801 and died in 1861. Mrs. Miller's father, Jacob Flory, was born in Somerset Co., Penn., July 4, 1801, and died in September, 1853. Her mother, Susanna (Smith) Flory, was born in Virginia, October, 1802. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have made all their worldly wealth by their own hard labor and enterprise, and now have a good home, in which to enjoy their declining years. He has been Trustee and School Director of his township. Mr. Miller is a member of the Lutheran Church, and his wife belongs to the German Baptist Church. Mrs. Miller was born July 3, 1827.

GEORGE MILLER, farmer, Sec. 19; P. O. Gordon; the subject of this sketch was born in Wittenburg, Germany, Oct. 5, 1817, and is a son of Charles and Dora Miller, both natives of Germany; his father died in Germany, aged 53 years; his mother died in America, aged 81 years; his father was a cabinet-maker by trade, but our subject became a stonecutter, and afterward learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed while he lived in Germany; he emigrated to this country in August, 1847, and landed in New York; came to Ohio and settled in Darke Co.; he purchased 62 acres of land all in the woods, but, going to work with a will that is characteristic of our German citizens, he soon cleared off the timber, and got his land in a state of cultivation, and now has good improvements erected thereon; he commenced life with a very small capital, but by energy and persevering industry, in which he was nobly assisted by his good wife, overcame and bridged the broad gulf of poverty and adversity with the chain of determination, and they are comfortably moored in a harbor of rest—secure from the chilling blasts of adversity. He was united in marriage with Catherine, daughter of





Michael and Barbara Creeb, April 12, 1840; twelve children are the fruits of this union, viz.: John, born April 1, 1841; Catherine, born Oct. 11, 1844; Rose, born Feb. 14, 1846; Margaret, born April 1, 1848; Elizabeth, born Nov. 1, 1849; Lydia, born April 1, 1851; Mary, born June 16, 1852; George, born June 2, 1854; Frederick, born March 16, 1856; David, born Feb. 27, 1858; Margaret, born June 22, 1860; Charles, born July 2, 1862. Margaret, died Nov. 15, 1854; Frederick, died Sept. 23, 1860; Rose, died Dec. 9, 1873. John was married to Rebecca Shank, daughter of Peter Shank, in March, 1869; Catherine married Nelson Marcum, in March, 1870; Elizabeth married George Schmeltzer, July 2, 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are members of the Lutheran Church, and are consistent Christian people; Mrs. Miller was born Jan. 8, 1820.

NELSON MOTE, farmer; P. O. Arcanum; the subject of this memoir was born in this township, May 30, 1842, and is a son of Noah and Catherine Mote. His father was the third actual settler in this township. Our subject assisted his father in the duties of the farm till his 17th year, when he began life for himself and at his country's call for men to preserve the honor of the flag and save the Union in the impending crisis, he enlisted in Company B of the glorious old 110th O. V. I., Aug. 17, 1862, and went resolutely forth to do whatever his country required of him; he was stationed at Piqua about two months, and then his regiment was sent to Parkersburg, W. Va., in October, where they remained two weeks, thence to Clarksburg, W. Va., where his regiment did camp duty till Christmas, and then did fortification duty till June, 1863, and was then ordered to the front, stationed at Harper's Ferry; his regiment belonged to the 3d Division of the 3d Army Corps; in the spring, they were transferred to the 6th Army Corps; his regiment participated in the engagement at Winchester, and afterward in the ever-memorable and disastrous battle of the Wilderness, that raged with unabated fury all through the month of May, in 1864; here the regiment lost heavily, but our subject escaped uninjured; the battle of Cold Harbor followed almost immediately, and the old 110th was again plunged into the thickest and hottest of the fight, and came out with thinned ranks, crippled and torn, and only a shadow of its former strength; here our subject received a severe wound in the left hand, entirely losing the forefinger, and shattering the bones in his hand in a terrible manner; this wound incapacitated Mr. Mote from further duty till the 15th of December, when he again joined the regiment at Petersburg, Va., and was engaged in the terrible and destructive battles of that renowned stronghold in March and April of 1864, and on April 2 he received two wounds, one in the breast, and the other behind the left ear, the ball passing clear through his head, and coming out by the side of his nose; he was again taken to the hospital, this time to City Point, and afterward to the hospital in Washington, where he remained till he was honorably discharged from the service, May 19, 1865, having served his country well and faithfully for two years nine months and two days; he now returned home, completely broken down from wounds, exposure and privations of war, and was unable to do much manual labor, but did all he could. He was united in marriage with Miss Sarah, daughter of George and Mary Hansberger, Aug. 16, 1866; her parents were residents of Darke County; her father was born in Virginia in 1810, her mother was born in Kentucky in 1816, and came to Darke County in 1823; Mr. Hansberger came in 1835; they were married in 1840, and are the parents of six children, of whom three are living. Mr. Mote has filled the office of Supervisor for one term; Mrs. Mote is a member of the Christian Church, and is an exemplary Christian woman.

GEORGE NETZLEY, deceased. The subject of this memoir was born in Lancaster Co., Penn., Nov. 5, 1823, and was a son of George and Elizabeth Netzley, also natives of Pennsylvania, and removed to Montgomery County in 1835 and settled on a farm, where they lived till 1873, when they removed to Franklin Township, Darke Co., and resided till their death. Mr. Netzley, Sr., died in the summer of 1875, aged 78 years; Mrs. Netzley departed this life in 1876, aged





75 years ; Geo. Netzley, our subject, settled in Monroe Township in 1859, on the same farm where his widow now resides ; he was united in marriage with Miss Catherine, daughter of D. and Mary Cauffman, July 13, 1846. they being natives of Pennsylvania ; eight children are the fruits of this union, viz.: Mary, born Dec. 3, 1847 ; Urias, born Sept. 25, 1849 ; Joseph, born July 11, 1851 ; Eli, born Jan. 27, 1855 ; Allen, born Feb. 10, 1857 ; Jesse, born April 12, 1861 ; Rosetta, born Nov. 7, 1865 ; David A., born Aug. 30, 1871. Mr. Netzley departed this life Sept. 7, 1879, aged 55 years 10 months and 2 days ; his death was caused by accident, his arm being caught in the cylinder of a thrashing machine, and before he could be extricated he was terribly injured ; the accident happened on Monday, and he lingered till the following Sunday, when death came to his relief ; Mr. Netzley purchased only 60 acres when he first settled in Darke County, but by careful management and persevering industry he kept adding to his small farm until his death, when he was in possession of 290 acres of as fine land as there is in the county, with fine buildings erected thereon, the fruits of his hard-earned labor.

DAVID W. NISWONGER, carpenter and builder ; resides on Sec. 7 ; P. O. Arcanum. The subject of this sketch was born in Darke County Jan. 6, 1843, and is a son of John Niswonger, whose sketch appears in this work. Our subject assisted his father in agricultural pursuits till his 18th year, when at his country's call, he was one of the first to respond, and volunteered in Co. K, of the 19th I. V. L., and afterward belonged to the 2d Corps. in the Army of the Potomac ; he passed through several severe engagements, the first at Slaughter Mountain, the second battle of Bull Run, South Mountain, and the battle of Antietam, where he received a severe wound in the left breast that rendered him unfit for military duty, and he was obliged to repair to the hospital, where he remained for six months, when he was honorably discharged from the service and returned to his home, and remained for nine months, but, still thirsting for the smoke and excitement of battle, he again enlisted in Co. B, of the 110th O. V. L., and returned to the front, and passed through the desperate and sanguinary battle of the Wilderness of 1864, where so many brave boys laid down their lives, merely to appease the clamorous cry raised by the North, of "On to Richmond ;" nothing of advantage was accomplished by this battle, but the heaps of dead and dying were ghastly witnesses of the great sacrifice of life to our brave boys in blue, and their noble and heroic commander, McClellan, was stigmatized as an inefficient leader, because he led where popular sentiment demanded, but absolutely contrary to the better judgment of men posted in military tactics ; after this came the battle of Spottsylvania, the "Slaughter-pen," where, our subject informs us, the dead lay in literal heaps, and large trees were shattered by the terrible rain of iron hail ; he was at Cold Harbor, and in fact all the fighting that was gone through by the Army Potomac, in the great campaign of 1864. At Monocacy Junction, in Maryland, he was taken prisoner, and sent to Danville, and was in the hands of the rebels seven months and thirteen days, when he was exchanged, and came home on furlough and reported at Camp Chase, but on account of ill health, and shattered constitution, caused by the fearful exposure in rebel prison pens, and the brutal treatment he received at their hands, he was honorably discharged from the service of his country in 1865. He returned home and labored on the farm for two years, and then engaged in harness-making in Pittsburgh for four years, when he sold out, and has followed carpentering from then till the present time. He was united in marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of David and Nancy Oldmine, May 19, 1867 ; her father was born in Pennsylvania, and her mother in Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Niswonger are the parents of six children, viz.: William H., born Oct. 7, 1869 ; Hetta V., born April 16, 1872 ; Sarah E., born July 25, 1874 ; Clifford, born Dec. 21, 1876 ; Harry, born Sept. 7, 1879 ; one dying in infancy. Our subject has had his full share of township offices, having served as Township Clerk for six years, Township Assessor five years. His wife is a member of the German Baptist Church, and an exemplary Christian woman.



ELI NISWONGER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 17; P. O. Arcanum, was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Aug. 31, 1836, and is a son of George and Elizabeth (Warner) Niswonger. His father was born in the same county in March, 1809, and died in the place of his birth, aged 70 years 4 months and 4 days. His mother was born in Pennsylvania in January, 1811, and died in Montgomery Co., aged 57 years. They were the parents of six children, of whom all are living but one, which died in infancy. Our subject assisted his father in home duties until his 21st year, when he began life for himself and engaged in farming, which he followed in his native county until 1864, when he removed to Darke Co., on the place where he now resides. It contained 90 acres, all in its wild state when he began operations on it, but by persistent labor he has deprived it of its native grandeur, and now it is in a good state of cultivation and well improved. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary H., daughter of Jesse and Eliza Cauffman, Feb. 1, 1859. Her parents were residents of Montgomery Co. Her father died at the age of 48 years and 9 months. Her mother is still living, at the advanced age of 67 years. They were the parents of ten children, of whom all are living but four. All reside in Dayton but one, who resides in Tippecanoe, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Niswonger are the parents of eight children, viz.: Laura Belle and Dora Ellen (twins), born April 17, 1862; Orrie, born April 7, 1864; George, born March 18, 1866; Jesse and Ira (twins), born Jan. 27, 1873; Willie, born April 5, 1875; Webby, born July 14, 1877; Ira departed this life June 27, 1873. Mr. Niswonger has had the honors of petty offices conferred upon him by his constituents and has performed his duties to the satisfaction of the public. Our subject was instrumental in causing the erection of School District No. 7. He circulated a petition and obtained the signatures of all the householders in the new district some eighteen months before it was presented to the Board, and was rewarded for his time and trouble, and has a good school with an enumeration of eighty-one, in close proximity to his own house.

DAVID NISWONGER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 17; P. O. Potsdam, Miami Co., Ohio. The subject of this memoir was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, May 29, 1834, and is a son of George and Elizabeth Niswonger; Mr. Niswonger was born in Montgomery Co. March, 1809, and lived and died on the place where he was born, aged 70 years 4 months and 4 days; Mrs. Niswonger was born in Pennsylvania January, 1811, and died in Montgomery Co., Ohio, aged 57 years; they were the parents of six children, of whom all are living but one, who died in infancy—David (the subject of this sketch), Eli (whose sketch also appears in this work), Catharine (now Mrs. Peffly, and resides in Franklin Township), May (now Mrs. Wanger, lives in Montgomery County) and Moses who resides in Michigan. Our subject assisted his father on the farm till his 21st year, when he began life for himself, and worked his father's farm on shares for two years, and burned lime for a season; then removed to Darke County and settled on the farm where he now resides, when it was mostly in the woods; he immediately set to work to clear off the heavy timber, and, going at it with a will, he soon accomplished a large part of the work, and, at the expiration of six years, he purchased a steam saw-mill, which he operated for four years, but was very unfortunate in this undertaking as the mill was twice destroyed by fire, and he was a loser of all the labor and money he had furnished; he then turned his attention to the farm again, and has followed this occupation ever since; he has 90 acres of good land, all in a good state of cultivation, and the improvements are all first-class; Mr. Niswonger has been very unfortunate in life; in 1863, the first year after he resumed work on the farm, he lost upward of \$100 worth of hogs from cholera; the second year, he lost the best horse he had, which cost him \$140 to replace; the third year, he was terribly afflicted with sickness in his family, and doctor bills, etc., cost him a large amount of money; in 1871, he lost his entire crop, except some barley and wheat, by a terrible hail-storm that swept over his locality, and was a heavy loss to him; since then, the sunshine of peace and prosperity has dissolved the lowering clouds.





of adversity, and all has gone well ; free from pecuniary loss, he has escaped the ravages of disease, and the elements no longer play sad havoc with his growing grain. He celebrated his marriage with Miss Anna, daughter of Jacob and May Pebbly, March 14, 1857; they were natives of Pennsylvania, and removed to Montgomery County in 1823; Mr. Pebbly was born in August, 1801; Mrs. Pebbly was born in 1803; they were the parents of ten children, viz., Lydia (now Mrs. Flory, resides in Montgomery County), Sarah (now deceased, formerly Mrs. Prizen resided in Indiana), Fanny (now Mrs. Flory, resides in Montgomery County), John (who lives in Darke County), Mary (now Mrs. Landis, formerly Mrs. Cloppert, who lives in Montgomery County), Anna (wife of the subject of this sketch), Jacob (resides in Darke County), Simon (lives in Montgomery County), Samuel (resides in Miami County), Benjamin (started for Kansas the 16th of December, where he intends to make a home); Mr. and Mrs. Niswonger are the parents of seven children, viz.: Moses, born June 14, 1858; Mary E., March 12, 1861; Clement L., Sept. 1, 1863; Charles E., March 26, 1868; Cora, Sept. 27, 1870; Sarah, Nov. 30, 1873; Edwin A., Aug. 21, 1877; Clement departed this life Oct. 15, 1863; both Mr. and Mrs. Niswonger are members of the German Baptist Church, and are worthy Christian people; he was once an inveterate user of tobacco, but, finding it was undermining his health, he resolved to quit, and did; his receipt for a cure is, "never put it in your mouth, and don't use it in any way, shape or form."

JOHN NISWONGER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 18; P. O. Arcanum; to the subject of this memoir we are pleased to accord a place in the front ranks of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; he was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, May 28, 1815, and is a son of John and Elizabeth Niswonger, who were born in Virginia about 1786, and removed to Ohio in 1807, and settled northwest of Dayton about twelve miles, where they resided till Mr. Niswonger's death, which occurred in 1850; some years after the death of her husband, Mrs. Niswonger removed to Darke Co., and resided with her daughter, Mrs. Samuel Baker, till her death, which occurred when upward of 70 years of age; they were the parents of nine children, of whom five are living, viz.: John, the subject of this sketch; Eli, a resident of Montgomery Co.; Frances, now Mrs. Benjamin Baker, and resides in Montgomery; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Samuel Baker, and lives in the same county; May, now Mrs. Samuel Baker, and resides in Darke Co. The deceased are George, died aged 71 years; Rachel (Mrs. Michael), aged 68 years; Nellie (Mrs. Swank), aged 38 years; Nicholas departed this life at the age of 47 years. Our subject assisted his father on the farm till his 21st year, when he began life for himself, and rented a farm in Montgomery Co. for two years, and then removed to Darke Co. in 1837; he purchased 189 acres of land, built a cabin immediately and went to work to clear up his land, which was covered with a dense growth of heavy timber and underbrush, and, by dint of hard labor that required energy and perseverance, he and his good wife, after years of toil and privations, such as the early pioneers of Darke Co. know, have, with their combined efforts, made a home in which to end their declining years, full of every comfort and happiness and refinement, and are dwellers therein. Our subject has been very successful all through life, and added to his original purchase 160 acres in Sec. 18, and removed to this place in 1878, where he still resides. He was united in marriage with Miss Susanna, daughter of David and Esther Warner, Sept. 3, 1835. Mr. Warner was born in Bedford Co., Penn., April 3, 1787, and died Nov. 13, 1862. Mrs. Warner was born in the same county in 1788, and died Sept. 13, 1872; they removed to Montgomery Co. in 1811, and settled on a farm; they were the parents of seven children, of whom five are living, Susanna, now Mrs. Niswonger; Catharine, now Mrs. Leechy, and resides in this county; John, resident of Miami Co.; Jacob, resides in this county; David, a resident of Madison Co., Ind. The deceased are Henry, died Sept. 22, 1841; Elizabeth, died in 1867, aged 56 years. Mr. and Mrs. Niswonger are the parents of twelve children, viz. Mary, born Jan. 9, 1837; Catharine, born July 11, 1838; George, born Nov. 3, 1839; Elizabeth, born April 13,





1841; David, born Jan. 6, 1843; Esther, born March 4, 1845; Lydia, born April 20, 1847; Lucinda, born Sept. 2, 1851; John C., born July 22, 1853; Harvey, born Sept. 16, 1855; Nicholas J., born June 1, 1857, and Harriet. Elizabeth departed this life Aug. 14, 1870. Mr. Niswonger has spared neither pains nor expense to educate his children, John, Harvey, Nicholas and Harriet being successful educators, and are leaders in the profession; our subject and his wife have been members of the German Baptist Church for twenty-six years, and are zealous Christian people.

**JACOB PRESSLER**, farmer; P. O. Gordon. Born near Sultz Oct. 5, 1835, is a son of Martin and Catherine (Roth) Pressler, who were married in Germany in 1834. Mrs. Pressler died soon after the birth of our subject, hence he was the only child by the union. Martin was again married in 1836, to Susan Bass, and by this union there were eight children, of whom seven are now living. In early life, he served an apprenticeship of carpentering, after which he devoted several years to traveling over the continent of Europe. Being a man of remarkable ingenuity, a large portion of his time was devoted to the manufacture of public and town clocks, cabinet-organ cases, etc. He also served a length of time in the military service of his country. On the 30th of June, 1848, he and his family emigrated to the United States, landing in Dayton, Ohio, in August following. He soon found employment in a machine-shop in Miamisburg; continued the same until 1860, when he moved to Darke Co. and followed farming until his death, which occurred Dec. 5, 1868. His widow survived him until June 9, 1878, when she, too, passed away. Our subject was employed in a machine-shop in Miamisburg from the age of 16 to 19 years. He then engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he has since followed. In 1862, he was united in marriage with Margaret Surber; nine children are the fruits of this union, of whom eight are now living. Upon his marriage, he purchased 40 acres of land in Sec. 24, Monroe Township, which he has since brought from its wild condition to a good state of cultivation by his own hard labor. He has, since a resident of Darke Co., held the office of Township Clerk three years, Township Trustee six years, and School Director nine years.

**GEORGE PUTERBAUGH**, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 8; P. O. Potsdam, Miami Co., Ohio. The subject of this memoir was born in Pennsylvania Dec. 7, 1811, and is a son of Samuel and Eve (Croner) Puterbaugh, who moved to Montgomery County, near Dayton, in 1814, and were among the early pioneers of that county; our subject was only 5 years old at the time, and remained at home and assisted his father on the farm, as his help was a grand acquisition to his parents to assist in clearing the heavy growth of timber that everywhere met the eye of the settler before the land could be satisfactorily tilled; our subject has lived to see the monarchs of the forest succumb to the onward march of civilization and improvement; the ax has done its work, the forest has been leveled, the wilderness made to blossom as the rose; at the age of 20, our subject served an apprenticeship under his brother and learned the blacksmith's trade, which he followed for three years, when he again resumed farming, and labored for his father's benefit till he was 26 years of age, when he went out into the world to battle for an existence, amid the turmoil and strife of the world's doings, with no capital save a horse that was a present from his father; he rented a farm in Montgomery County, which he carried on for three years, and was very successful, making about \$15,000, which enabled him to purchase 160 acres of land, for which he paid \$3,200. He now being a real-estate holder, he went to work with renewed energy and a determination to clear himself from debt, which he soon accomplished, and had sufficient ahead to buy 80 acres more land, for which he paid \$2,600; he resided on the farm for twelve years, when, in 1860, he purchased a water paper mill, on the Stillwater, but was not successful in this undertaking, as he suffered a loss of \$8,000; thus the fruits of labor were swept from him in a short time, that took years of incessant labor to amass; in 1866, he removed to Darke County, where he



purchased 240 acres of land where he now resides. Samuel Puterbaugh was born in Franklin Co., Penn., in February, 1790, and was a son of George and Mary Puterbaugh, natives of Pennsylvania; their parents were European born on both sides, and died at advanced ages; his mother was born in Bedford Co., Penn., in 1790 or 1791, and died in 1849, aged 58 years; his father died, aged 59 years: they were the parents of eleven children, of whom seven are living. Our subject was united in marriage with Miss Sarah, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Weybright, May 26, 1836, and are the parents of eleven children, viz.: Harriett, born Aug. 13, 1837; Samuel, born Jan. 8, 1840; Jacob, born Aug. 28, 1842; Allen, born March 16, 1845; John E., born Jan. 9, 1851; Mary, born April 24, 1853; Davis, born May 23, 1855; Sarah C., born April 26, 1857; Sarena, born April 24, 1859; George W., born March 3, 1863; Emma J., born March 16, 1865; John E. died Sept. 27, 1852; Samuel died Sept. 28, 1853; Sarah C. died April 28, 1857; Emma J. died Jan. 11, 1868; George W. died March 5, 1863; Jacob married Miss Sarah Wagner March 20, 1863; Allen married Hannah Spittler April 7, 1868; Harriet married John Kessler the latter part of March, 1858; Davis married Thurzy H. Porter Feb. 10, 1876; Sarena married Ira Landis May 4, 1878; Mary E. married John Oaks Oct. 3, 1878; Mrs. P.'s father was born in Somerset Co., Penn., in the latter part of the eighteenth century, and removed to Montgomery County in 1800; Mrs. P. was born about the same time as her husband, and emigrated from Pennsylvania to Ohio on horseback; they were married in 1812, and were the parents of nine children, of whom seven are living.

JOHN SCHEIDING, farmer; P. O. Gordon; the subject of this memoir was born in Saxony, Germany, Aug. 8, 1827, and is a son of Nicholas and Christena Scheiding, natives of Germany; our subject assisted his father on the farm until he was 25 years of age, when he began life for himself, and labored as a farm hand for two years; in the fall of 1853, he emigrated to America and landed in New York, his ocean trip occupying three weeks; he came directly to Montgomery Co., Ohio, and worked in a flax-seed mill for three winters; he afterward followed other pursuits, and in 1868 he removed to Darke Co., and rented a farm for four years, in this township, and then purchased 40 acres of land, where he now resides; it was partly cleared, but without any improvement worthy of note; but to-day, his small farm is in a high state of cultivation, with a good house, barn and other improvements of a good, substantial character, all the fruits of their own labor, as Mr. Scheiding began life with no capital. He was united in marriage with Miss Margaret, daughter of George Henninger (whose sketch appears in this work), Feb. 7, 1863; seven children have been given to this union, viz.: John, born in 1863; Albert H., born Sept. 25, 1864, died Jan. 21, 1867; Gustave, born April 28, 1867; George M., born Feb. 8, 1869; Charles A., born March 1, 1870, died Dec. 1, 1871; Frederica L., born Jan. 1, 1872; Charles A., born Oct. 24, 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Scheiding are lifelong members of the Lutheran Church.

ANDREW J. SERBER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 18; P. O. Arcanum. To the subject of this sketch we are pleased to accord a place in the front rank of the early settlers of Darke Co.; he was born in Rockingham Co., Va., Nov. 25, 1837, and is a son of Andrew and Caroline (Hansberger) Serber, natives of Vermont; his father was born in 1799 and died in this township aged 54 years 11 months and 17 days; his mother was born in 1807 and died in this township aged 71 years 10 months and 25 days. Our subject spent his early life on a farm, and assisted his father in agricultural pursuits till the age of 22, when he began life for himself and carried on the old home place in partnership with his brother Robert for about four years; then selling his interest, he purchased 80 acres of land in Franklin Township, all in the woods; after clearing 20 acres, he disposed of this land and purchased 92 acres, where he now resides, and by dint of hard labor, he has cleared the balance and has good, comfortable and substantial buildings erected thereon; he has been very successful in life, and he and his good lady have undergone their full share of toil and privation and now are enjoying





the fruits of their toil and are surrounded by all the comforts of life. He celebrated his marriage with Susannah, daughter of Henry and Esther Bowers, April 21, 1864; Mr. and Mrs. Bowers were natives of Pennsylvania, afterward residents of Montgomery Co. Mr. Bowers departed this life Oct. 5, 1864; he was born May 16, 1815; Mrs. Bowers (now Mrs. Zumbunn) resides in Montgomery Co. she was born Aug. 20, 1820; they were the parents of four children. Mr. and Mrs. Serber are the parents of three children, viz.: Estler, born April 6, 1865; Mary E., Oct. 26, 1867; Elmer E., July 18, 1870; Mr. and Mrs. Serber have been members of the German Baptist Church for three years and are good Christian people and take a lively interest in the promulgation and advancement of Christianity. Andrew Serber, Sr., was the father of eleven children, viz.: Charles, born in 1830; Joseph and John (twins) in 1833; Robert, in 1834; Caroline, in 1844; Mary E., in 1840; Emeline, in 1843; Amanda, in 1852; George W., in 1855; Margaret, in September, 1857; Mary E., died in March, 1856; Charles, June, 1856; Henry Bowers was the father of four children, viz.: Jeremiah, born Oct. 7, 1831; Susannah, Aug. 30, 1843; Elizabeth, June 24, 1846; John, Feb. 9, 1849.

PETER SHANK, farmer, Sec. 33; P. O. Center, Montgomery Co., Ohio. The subject of this sketch we are pleased to accord a place in the advance brigade of early pioneers in Darke Co. He was born in Lancaster Co., Penn., May 28, 1803, and is a son of Christopher and Catherine Shank, natives of the same place—lived, died and are buried in the place of their nativity. His father departed this life in 1825, at the age of 45 years, and his mother at the advanced age of 91 years. Our subject assisted his father in tailoring till his 21st year, and then began life for himself, and followed his trade to gain a livelihood. After his father's death, he resided with his widowed mother for four years, when he was united in the bonds of matrimony with Miss Barbara, daughter of John and Mary Keener, Jan. 12, 1829. They were natives of Dauphin Co., Penn., and their remains are peacefully at rest on the hillsides of their native place. Our subject removed to Montgomery Co., Ohio, with his young wife, the same year of their marriage, and settled seven miles north of Dayton, and resided there for four years and worked at his trade. In 1834, he came to Darke Co. and settled on the place where he now resides. He first purchased 160 acres of land, consisting of woods and almost impenetrable swamps; he erected a small log cabin, and began the great task of making a farm in the heart of a mighty wilderness, with no improved implements of industry such as we possess now to assist and lighten the heavy work of clearing, and muscle then were the essentials, and he who had not plenty of the latter was certainly an object of pity, for strength, muscle and the power to endure privations were the keys that opened the great wilderness and sustained the pioneer in those trying days. Our subject and his good wife have passed through the different phases of pioneer life, and for fifty years this day, the anniversary of their marriage, have they labored together, shared each other's joys, partaken of each other's sorrows, each has been a helpmeet to the other, and, although their frames are bent with the weight of years and incessant toil they are in the enjoyment of good health and strength, with faculties unimpaired; they are the parents of nine children—Nancy, born Oct. 2, 1830; Catherine, born Oct. 10, 1831, died at the age of 15 months; Lydia, born Sept. 26, 1833; Elizabeth, born Aug. 14, 1835; Catherine, born Dec. 24, 1837; Henry, born May 10, 1840; Susanna, born Nov. 13, 1844; Margaret, born April 5, 1847; John, born Sept. 3, 1850. Mr. Shank was the first Justice of the Peace in Monroe Township after its erection, and has been identified in most all of the offices in the Township, and is a man with considerable executive ability; he is a member of the Brethren in Christ Church, and his wife belongs to the German Baptist; both are Christian people in every sense of the word, and are universally beloved and respected by all; they have been very fortunate in rearing their large family, having lived in Darke Co. for a period of forty-five years without a death in the family; in May, 1879, the death messenger entered the family of his daughter, Mrs. John Miller, who resides in Washington





Township, and removed three of its members from earth to heaven—Lydia on the 19th of May, and her sister Ara on the 21st following, and all that was mortal of these two innocents was consigned to the same tomb; but its ravages did not stop here, and little Peter fell a victim to the scourge, and was carried away to angels' home on the 29th following.

**RILEY SHILT**, farmer; P. O. Gordon; the subject of this memoir was born in Preble County, March 21, 1835, and removed with his parents to the same Section where he now resides in 1839; his father was born in Adams County, Penn., Oct. 7, 1790, and died July 21, 1876; his mother was born May 31, 1799, and departed this life Jan. 4, 1872. Our subject was reared on the farm, and assisted in the duties of the same till he was 21 years of age; in 1862, he volunteered in Company B of the 110th O. V. I., which was attached to the 8th Corps, and afterward to the 6th Corps; his regiment was engaged at Winchester for three consecutive days, and Riley informs us it was "mighty hot" in that neighborhood for awhile; at Wapping Heights, they stood the brunt of the battle, but the mortality of the regiment was not as severe as at Winchester; after this fight, he was transferred to the Ambulance Corps, and many a poor fellow has Riley lifted from the field and carried to the rear; at the battle of the Wilderness, he labored for seven days and nights in removing the dead and wounded, and his horses were out of harness only once, day and night being employed to remove the heaps of wounded and slain; he was honorably discharged from the service of his country. July 2, 1865, having served two years ten months and eleven days. He was united in marriage with Catherine Ibach, Dec. 26, 1867; one child was given to this union, viz., Sarah A., born Jan. 22, 1869; Mrs. Shilt departed this life April 6, 1872. He was again united in marriage with Mariah Flory, April 7, 1873, and by this union have one child, viz., William E., born Aug. 22, 1874. Our subject's father died in Darke County, aged 52 years; his mother departed this life in Indiana, aged 62 years. He has 40 acres of land where he resides, all in a good state of cultivation, with good average improvements.

**ADAM N. SMITH**, farmer and stock-raiser; Sec. 30. The subject of this sketch was born in Maryland, in 1828, and is a son of George A. and Nancy Smith; they were natives of Maryland; his father died in 1875, and his mother is living and resides in Carroll Co., Md.; our subject was raised on a farm and assisted his father in the same till he was 25 years of age, when he began life for himself and followed farming for seventeen years, when he removed to Montgomery Co., where he resided for seven years; thence to Baltimore, in Preble Co., where he remained for one year; thence to the place where he now resides; he first purchased 40 acres of land, mostly in the woods, and by hard work and good management, he succeeded in clearing off his land, and it is now in a good state of cultivation; he has since purchased 38 acres, and now owns 78 acres in all; his improvements are good, and he bids fair to be one of our leading farmers; he was married to Elizabeth, daughter of George Wagner, Feb. 1, 1853; they are natives of Frederick Co., Md., afterward residents of Montgomery; her father died in 1876; her mother is still living and resides in Montgomery. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are the parents of five children, Ida E., Martha F., William S., Charles G., George J. Mr. Smith has been a member of the M. E. Church for thirty-five years; Mrs. Smith is a member of the German Baptist Church, of twenty years standing; both are old soldiers of the Cross, and are leading members of the church they represent—good exemplary Christian people.

**ADAM SMITH**, farmer and stock-raiser. Sec. 36; P. O. Gordon. The subject of this sketch was born in Wittenburg, Germany, Nov. 7, 1818, and is a son of Frederick and Catherine Smith, natives of the same place. His father died when he was quite young, and his mother when he was 13 years of age; his father was a shoemaker by trade, but our subject was a weaver, and followed his trade in various places. He came to this country in 1848, and landed in New York, his voyage occupying eight weeks. He went from there to Pennsylvania, where he



remained five weeks, and then went to Cincinnati, and was employed on the river steamers, and made runs to New Orleans for about two months, when he abandoned the river and came to Dayton, where he was employed for some time, and then to Miami Co., remaining for six years, working in a tan-yard; thence to near Miamisburg, for five years, and followed farming. He was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Frederick and Elizabeth Stover, Oct. 15, 1854. They were natives of Pennsylvania, afterward residents of Montgomery Co.; both are dead, dying at advanced ages. Mrs. Smith was born in Montgomery, Sept. 24, 1824. Mr. Smith is one of our self-made men, as he began life with no capital, and he has, by good management and industry, made a good property; in all his trials and labor he has been nobly assisted by his wife, and they now own 80 acres of land, all in a good state of cultivation, and his improvements are No. 1 in every particular, all made by their hard, earnest labor, and they have a good home, surrounded by all the comforts of life. They are the parents of only one child, John A., born July 17, 1859. Mr. Smith has been a member of the Lutheran Church all his life, and is a consistent Christian gentleman.

ELIAS SPITLER, farmer: P. O. Gordon. The subject of this memoir was born in Adams Co., Penn., May 16, 1821, and is a son of Jacob and Mary Spitler, natives of Pennsylvania, afterward residents of Montgomery Co. Our subject was reared as a farmer boy, and assisted in the work of the farm till he was 27 years of age. He was united in marriage with Miss Eliza, daughter of John and Ruth Heater, Feb. 24, 1848; they were natives of Pennsylvania. After his marriage, Mr. Spitler began life in good earnest; he had no capital, in fact not \$5 at the time of his marriage. He engaged in farming in Montgomery Co., till 1856, when he removed to Darke Co., on the place where he now resides. He purchased 80 acres of land, partly in the woods, and, by the united efforts of himself and lady, which combined energy with determination, they overcame all the obstacles of life, and the fruit of their toil is a beautiful home, surrounded by all the comforts of life. Children — Rufus, born April 26, 1849; Anna M., born July 15, 1850; Harriet, born May 30, 1852; Amanda, born Sept. 10, 1861; Rufus departed this life in the bloom of young manhood, Nov. 23, 1871, aged 22 years 6 months and 27 days, leaving his young bride to mourn his departure, they only being married four months; Amanda departed this life March 5, 1873, aged 19 years 5 months and 20 days; she was Mrs. Harvey Ludy and left a husband and one child. Mr. Spitler has been Trustee of his township for three years, and has been School Director for many years. He and his good wife have been members of the Lutheran Church for a period of thirty-five years, and are universally beloved and respected by all who know them.

ELIAS F. STAUFFER, farmer and stock-raiser. Sec. 7: P. O. Arcanum. The subject of this memoir was born in Montgomery Co. April 13, 1835; his father was born in Pennsylvania and his mother in Virginia, and removed to Montgomery Co. in a very early day, and are still living at advanced ages. Our subject assisted his father in the labors of the farm, till his majority, at which time he began life for himself, and followed the occupation of his father: he worked on a rented farm in Montgomery Co. for a period of seven years, when he removed to Darke Co. in 1866, where he purchased 80 acres of land, where he now lives; he has since bought 45 acres more adjoining his first purchase, and all is in a good state of cultivation and well improved. His property is the fruit of his and his wife's hard labor. He was married to Anna, daughter of Daniel and Rebecca Hollinger, Dec. 28, 1858; they were natives of Pennsylvania, and removed to Ohio in a very early day; her father is dead, her mother is still living, and resides with the subject of our sketch. Mr. and Mrs. Stauffer are the parents of seven children, viz.: Lucinda, born March 13, 1860; John, born May 17, 1862; Benjamin born Feb. 18, 1865; Harvey born Jan. 15, 1870; Hettie, born Nov. 24, 1872; Lydia, born March 13, 1874; Samuel, born Feb. 18, 1867, and died in infancy. Mr. Stauffer has filled the office of School Director several terms, having had only the advantages of a common-school education, but is considerably interested in educating his children. He and his amiable





wife, are members of the German Baptist Church, and are among the zealous workers in the church.

A. G. STROBEL, farmer : was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, his father dying when he was but 6 years old ; till the age of 14, he lived with a man named Carl Weis, to whom he afterward was apprenticed to learn the trade of wagon-maker, paying therefor \$30 in money, and clothing himself. After this term of apprenticeship expired, he traveled several weeks, and at last located in Heilbronn, where he worked one year ; in the spring of 1834, he obtained work in Cannstadt, from a man named Neff ; March 1, 1835, was drafted in the army and served as an artilleryman two years, when he was placed in one of the army wagon-shops, where he remained seven months. In the winter of 1840, he wrote to a brother in America for money to get across the water with, and in the following July landed in New York without a cent in his pocket ; he made his way to Pittsburgh, Penn., where a brother lived, where he remained a short time, then, after a long and tedious passage on the Ohio, he arrived in Cincinnati ; here he worked three weeks for his board, and afterward on a farm at \$1.50 per day ; on the 16th of October, he arrived at Dayton, via canal, where he passed the winter at his brother's house, having no work ; in 1842, he returned to Cincinnati and began work at his trade, but, as he was only a short time employed, he returned to Dayton ; afterward he worked at farming for Carl Port. Was united in marriage with Phebe Schwerk, by whom he had three children, the youngest (twins) died at birth, the eldest was placed in care of its grandmother ; the summer after the death of his first wife, he was married to Leily Freeman, June 25. Mr. Stroble has been unfortunate in losing, by fire, his wagon-shop, valued at from \$300 to \$400, also a barn and contents valued at \$3,000.

JESSE STUTSMAN, minister, educator and farmer ; the subject of this memoir was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Oct. 29, 1833, and is a son of David and Francis Stutsman, natives of Pennsylvania ; they removed to Montgomery Co. in 1802, when there were but three houses where the beautiful city of Dayton now stands ; he cleared four farms in this county, and endured all the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life, and in 1860 he disposed of the old home farm and removed to Polk Co., Mo., where he died the following year, from the effects of exertion and the troubles of war ; his mother, after the death of her husband, returned to Ohio, to escape the horrors of guerrilla warfare, and remained about seven years, and then moved to Kansas to spend her declining years with her daughter, and died in September, 1877. Her son-in-law, Mr. Herr, who resided in Missouri, was foully shot down by the rebel bushwhacker, Powell, and, before the close of the war he was captured in Arkansas, handed over to a Missouri regiment, court-martialed, sentenced to death and shot. In the winter of 1857, our subject emigrated to Cedar Co., Mo., and engaged in farming ; here he was very unfortunate, losing all his property, and was thus thrown entirely upon his own resources ; in 1858, he returned to Miami Co. and engaged in teaching, which occupation he followed for two years, when he removed to Montgomery Co. and still continued to follow his profession ; he only received a common-school education, and is one of our self-made men in every respect, and is a successful and proficient educator ; in 1869, he removed to Darke Co., where he now resides, and purchased 87 acres of land, all in a good state of cultivation, the fruit of his labor. Mr. Stutsman is a representative of the German Baptist Church, and has labored in the ministry for twelve years ; he was united in marriage with Miss Martha, daughter of Martin Hyser, Nov. 7, 1857 ; Mr. Hyser emigrated from Lancaster Co., Penn., in 1850, and located in Montgomery Co., is still living, and is upward of 83 years of age, the oldest man in Butler Township ; Mrs. Hyser departed this life Jan. 2, 1875, aged 75 years and 1 day ; was born Jan. 1, 1800. Mr. and Mrs. Stutsman are the parents of nine children, viz. : Francis E., born July 1, 1861 ; Willis H., born Jan. 11, 1864 ; Charles A., born Aug. 27, 1866 ; Franklin M., born





Dec. 18, 1868 ; Anna M., born July 3, 1871 ; Susella, born Aug. 26, 1873 ; Ira M., born June 1, 1875 ; infant daughter dying in infancy ; Marcus D., died Aug. 27, 1860, aged 6 months 26 days.

ROBERT SURBER, farmer ; P. O. Arcanum ; born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Dec. 18, 1838 ; in 1840, he with his parents came to Darke Co. ; his father died in 1852, and mother in 1878. Our subject remained at home with his mother until 1865, when he united in marriage with Catherine Rhoads, and, from the date of his marriage until his mother's death, he was her support. Mr. and Mrs. Surber are the parents of seven children, of whom six are living, viz., Sarah J., Amos, Mary Etta, Emma, Minnie and Ira. At the time of their marriage, they had but little by which to commence in life, and have since, by hard labor and economy, accumulated 126 acres of splendid land in Sec. 13, Range 3 east, valued at about \$8,000.

SAMUEL SWANK, farmer, Sec. 24 ; P. O. Gordon, Ohio ; was born in Montgomery Co., Oct. 25, 1836, and is a son of Jacob and Sarah Swank. Mr. Swank was born in Kentucky, and Mrs. Swank was born in Pennsylvania ; his father died at the age of 79 years, his mother at the age of 52 years. Our subject was reared as a farmer's boy, and assisted his father until he was 21 years of age, when he began life for himself, and engaged in farming in Montgomery Co. for three years on his father's place ; thence to Darke Co. and purchased a steam saw-mill, which he managed for thirteen years, and still has the mill in his possession ; he purchased 124 acres of land, where he now resides in 1867 ; it was all in the green woods, which he has cleared up, so it is all in a good state of cultivation ; his improvements are second to none in the township ; his fine house, now in the course of erection, is an ornament to the farm and shows the taste and good judgment of the builder ; his property is the fruit of his own hard labor and good management. He was united in marriage with Miss Catherine, daughter of Paul Tobias, Feb. 28, 1861, and resides in Montgomery Co. Four children have been given to this union, viz., Sarah, born March 20, 1864 ; Ira, April 21, 1866 ; Elmer, Aug. 1, 1870 ; Clement L., born in April, 1863, died in Sept. 1864. Mr. Swank has been School Director for a period of three years ; he only had the advantages of a common-school education, but experience has made him a close calculator, and he is greatly interested in educational matters, and is giving his children good educations.

## TWIN TOWNSHIP.

SIMPSON ALBRIGHT, retired farmer ; P. O. Arcanum. Another of the old settlers of Darke Co. He was born in Anderson Co. East Tenn., in 1804, and is a son of Philip and Christena Albright, natives of North Carolina. He removed with his parents to Preble Co., Ohio, in the year 1814. In 1820, he returned to Tennessee, and remained till 1826, when he came back and permanently located in Darke Co., in Twin Township, in 1834. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary, daughter of Henry and Mary Snoderly, natives of North Carolina, Nov. 9, 1828. Twelve children have been given to this union, viz., Johnson K., Henry M., Henderson L., Daniel S., Philip S., William K., Adam C., Catherine S., Sarah, Elizabeth, Mary and Martha M., the latter dying in infancy. Henry departed this life in August, 1878, aged 48 years, leaving a wife and five children to mourn his loss. He was a member of the United Brethren Church in Christ, and died as he had lived, relying absolutely on the promises of his Savior. Mr. and Mrs. Albright had seven sons in the army at one time, and he informs us he offered his services to his country if they would supply him with teeth with which to bite the cart-ridge ; they all returned to their homes uninjured except Philip, who received two



flesh-wounds ; while these patriotic boys were in the front, suffering the dangers and privations of cruel and devastating war, their heroic and patriotic mother took the implements of labor in her own hands, and, with a determination and resolution that is the offspring of patriotism, entered the field, and, with her own hands, cultivated 16 acres of corn, and doing other labor of great fatigue. Mr. and Mrs. Albright have been members of the church for fifty years, and are greatly interested in religion, and in their declining years it affords them great satisfaction that they have not labored in vain, their children being co-workers with them in achieving righteousness. His son William has been a minister of the Gospel for eight years.

**JACOB BISH.** grocer and tobacco dealer. Arcanum ; born in Carroll Co., Md., Nov. 19, 1823, where he remained until about 1839, after which, during life, he learned three trades, viz.: tanner, carpenter and machinist : in his youthful days received no education ; after his maturity, voted to introduce the public school system and donated the land for the first schoolhouse in his township ; on April 24, 1845, he united in marriage with Mary Jones, and by this union have one child : they remained at the place of his nativity until 1855, when they emigrated to Dayton, Ohio, where he soon found employment in a machine-shop and was engaged in various pursuits until 1866, at which time he bought a farm, for \$6,000, near West Sonora, Preble Co., Ohio, and moved on it ; he soon after sold it, and in 1872 came to Darke Co. and bought a farm near Arcanum, what was then known as the Coons farm, which he afterward laid out in town lots and sold ; in 1874, moved to Arcanum, located on lot No. 56, where he engaged in his present business, and since 1878 his entire attention has been turned to the tobacco trade for W. S. O'Neal, of Dayton, Ohio, and since a resident of Arcanum, has held the offices of Town Marshal, Town Councilman and Pike Superintendent of Twin Township ; our subject is a man who has, during his whole life, done a great deal of traveling, thereby having viewed the scenes of the Alleghany Mountains a number of times and served four months in the late rebellion ; when Mr. B. commenced in life, he had an amount of property so small that his tax receipts have increased from 25 cents to \$75.

**HENRY C. BRISTLY,** carpenter ; P. O. Arcanum. The subject of this sketch is the son of Charles Bristly, a native of Germany, and Elizabeth Olivine, of Pennsylvania ; was born in Pennsylvania Sept. 7, 1826 ; his parents removed to Montgomery Co. in 1853, where his father died in 1857, aged 76 years. After a residence in this county of one year subsequent to the death of his father, his mother took up her abode with her son (Henry C.), where she remained till her death, Jan. 9, 1873, aged 77 years and 6 months. At the age of 21, Mr. Bristly left the old roof that had sheltered him all these years, and began life for himself by learning the carpenter's trade, which he has closely followed up to this time. He was united in marriage with Miss Delila, daughter of Jacob Baker, Esq., a resident of Montgomery Co., Ohio, Oct. 18, 1855 ; eight children have been born, to wit : Elizabeth, Susanna, Mary, Levi, Sarah, Samuel, and two died in infancy. On the 2d of March, 1857, Mr. B. located on the land where he now lives, which at that time was covered by timber ; by hard work, energy and industry, he has made great changes, and to-day has a fine residence, first-class farm buildings, and a farm in a high state of cultivation. Mr. Bristly has been School Director for years, and is at this time filling the office of Township Trustee. Is a member of the Lutheran Church.

**ISAAC BURKE,** deceased. The subject of this sketch was born in Tennessee Nov. 25, 1823 ; his parents removed to Preble Co., Ohio, in 1827, when he was but 4 years old, he continued to reside with his parents and assisted in the labors of the farm till 1846. He was then united in marriage with Sarah Wright, Oct. 27 of the same year ; he then began life for himself, with no means except his own willing hands and resolute will, and, being nobly assisted by his amiable and energetic wife, they overcame the difficulties so common to early





piooer life and succeeded in making a comfortable home, where his widowed wife still remains, assisted by her children in carrying on the farm. Mr. Burke's death occurred Oct. 7, 1867, in his 44th year, leaving many friends and a memory that will long be cherished by his lonely wife and fatherless children. Mr. Burke was an active member of the Methodist Church, and died trusting in the promises of his Savior. Ten children were given to this union, viz.: William A., born March 31, 1848; Mary E., born June 28, 1849; John M., born April 15, 1851; Ruth A., born March 24, 1853; Richard H., born June 3, 1855; Irene, born June 16, 1857; Manervia A., born May 11, 1858; Calvin J., born July-18, 1859; Jesse D., born Nov. 21, 1861; Amanda A., born Feb. 12, 1863. Manervia died June 27, 1857; Irene died June 27, 1877; Jesse died Feb. 23, 1862. Mrs. Burke has been sorely afflicted by the loss of her husband and children, but seems resigned to the loss, and lives in the hopes of being again united.

JOHN D. CLARK, of the firm of Kraus & Clark, Arcanum. To the subject of this sketch we are pleased to accord a place in the advance lines of the early pioneers of Darke County; he was born in Butler Co., Ohio, Aug. 12, 1814, and is a son of Barzilla and Mary (Davis) Clark; his father was born in Virginia Oct. 3, 1788, and died in Darke Co. in March, 1874, and his remains are interred in the cemetery at Ithaca: his mother was born in Maryland Sept. 1, 1780, and died Aug. 13, 1871, and lies beside her husband in Ithaca Cemetery; they settled in Twin Township in 1848, one mile southwest of Ithaca. Mr. Clark, Sr., was a volunteer in the war of 1812, and was in the army that was surrendered by Hull, and was on the pension rolls of the old veterans of that war. The subject of this sketch has been a continuous resident of Darke Co. since 1840; he had purchased 255 acres of land in its wild state, and, by his untiring industry and determination, in which he has been most nobly assisted by his industrious and amiable wife, succeeded in removing all the obstructions and thoroughly fitted it for the implements of agriculture; he still owns the same tract of land, with an additional 40 acres that he has cleared, improved and spent the greater part of his life upon; in 1872, he came to Arcanum and engaged in the drug business, which he followed for three years, then selling out to his son and embarked with Mr. Kraus in a general mercantile business, in which he is still engaged. He was united in marriage with Miss Sarah, daughter of John and Jane Bowyer, Aug. 15, 1838, near Foster's Crossing, in Warren Co.; her parents were born in Pennsylvania in the latter part of the eighteenth century, and settled in Warren Co. in 1800, and were among the first settlers in that county; both died in the county of their adoption, her father at the age of 76, and her mother at the age of 68 years. Mr. and Mrs. Clark are the parents of eight children, viz.: Mary J., born in Warren Co., Dec. 29, 1839; Sarepta, born in Darke Co., June 21, 1842; Nancy, July 3, 1845; John W., Sept. 15, 1848; Bowyer, July 12, 1852; Sarah E., July 6, 1856; Laura J., April 5, 1859, and one dying in infancy April 20, 1851. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have been members of the M. E. Church for upward of forty years, and have faithfully performed the duties incident to a fervent Christian life. Mr. Clark is a Prohibitionist and a good worker in the temperance cause. Mr. Clark assisted by Mr. Ivester, whose sketch appears in this work, was the first to agitate the question of free pikes, and under his supervision three miles were constructed in the fall of 1867.

MICHAEL CLINE, cooper, Arcanum; was born Jan. 20, 1811, in Hampshire County, Va., where he remained until March, 1836, when he came to Montgomery County, Ohio, and commenced coopering, which occupation he has followed through life. Jan. 14, 1844, he was united in marriage with Martha A. Miller, and by this union they have five children, viz., Mollie E., Henry M., Charles C., Edward A. and William; Mollie has been a teacher of the public school for a number of years. Mr. Cline came to Arcanum, Darke Co., in 1866, where he has since resided, and since then has filled the office of Township Trustee five successive terms, Town Councilman one term. The sum of the ages of our subject, father





and mother, and both of his grandfathers and grandmothers, was 582 years ; this shows remarkable average age.

GORDON S. CLOYD, farmer, Sec. 20 ; P. O. Arcanum.

PHILIP COONS, merchant, Arcanum. The subject of this sketch was born in Fairfield Co., Ohio, Sept. 17, 1839, and is a son of William W. and Elizabeth Coons, old residents of Fairfield Co., but now residents of Arcanum ; Mr. Coons only had the advantages of a common-school education, as he assisted his father in the duties of the farm ; but by hard labor, which combined both energy and industry, he succeeded in acquiring a good average education ; he removed from his native place to Arcanum in the fall of 1867 and engaged in manufacturing and handling a general stock of boots and shoes, which business he followed for two years, when he closed out his stock and purchased a farm of 60 acres in Twin Township, which he carried on for two years, when he disposed of this property, in 1871, and purchased 120 acres in Butler Township of Levi Slechty for \$54 per acre, and again sold at the expiration of six months, realizing a fair profit ; in 1872, he opened a store of general merchandise in Arcanum, where he still continues to do business ; he has large double salerooms, with storerooms back, and carries a complete and perfect stock of clothing, dry goods, hats, caps, boots, shoes and groceries, in fact, everything found in a first-class retail business house. He celebrated his marriage with Miss Almira, daughter of Benjamin and Susan Founts, May 5, 1861 ; her parents being old residents of Darke County ; Mrs. (Founts) Coons was born in March, 1840 ; six children have been given to this union, viz.: Flora, born Nov. 22, 1862 ; Elizabeth S., born Nov. 9, 1865 ; Luanna, born April 27, 1868 ; Leroy W., born August 23, 1871 ; Harry P., born Dec. 9, 1874 ; Cleo W., born Aug. 25, 1878. In March, 1879, the death messenger entered this quiet and happy little family and removed two of its members from earth to heaven ; little Harry on the 13th of March, and his baby brother Cleo on the 18th following. Mr. Coons' father, William W., was born in Harrison Co., West Va., Sept. 9, 1806, and removed when in infancy, with his parents, to Ross Co., Ohio ; here he attended school, and assisted his father in the labors on the farm during vacations ; Mr. Coons, the father of the subject of this sketch, was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth, daughter of William and Sarah Schooley, Sept. 20, 1826, who were old residents of Ross Co., Ohio ; they are the parents of ten children, of whom seven are living, viz.: Mary A., now Mrs. Robinson, who resides in Preble Co., Ohio ; Henry, a resident of Camden, Ohio ; Philip, the subject of this sketch ; Ellen, now Mrs. Ford, who lives in Arcanum ; Salem S., residing in Butler Co., Ohio ; John, who also lives in Camden ; Samuel, a minister of the U. B. Church, and at present resides in Lewisburg, Ohio ; the deceased are Sallie, Mrs. Gifford ; Cena, Mrs. Francis ; and one dying in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Coons, Sr., have been members of the U. B. Church in Christ for forty-six years, and Mr. Coons has labored in the ministry for forty-three years, and, although his frame is bent with the weight of years, his mind is still vigorous and his memory unimpaired.

PHILEMON CROMWELL, retired farmer, Sec. 19 ; P. O. Ithaca. The subject of this sketch is entitled to a place in the advance lines of the early pioneers of Darke Co. ; he was born March 23, 1803, and is a son of Philemon and Mary Cromwell, natives of Maryland, both dying in their native State—his father at the age of 84, and his mother at the advanced age of 92 years ; he removed to Ohio and settled in Darke Co. in March, 1838, and purchased 156 acres of land in its wild state, and by his energy and undimining will, combined with the assistance rendered by his industrious and amiable wife, overcame all the obstacles incident to pioneer life, and they have as a reward of their toil and privations, a beautiful home, surrounded by every comfort and convenience, in which to enjoy their declining years. His marriage with Miss Rebecca, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Snook, was celebrated March 12, 1835 ; nine children have been given to this union, viz.: William W., born Feb. 21, 1836 ; Catherine V., Nov. 14, 1840 ; Henry H., Sept. 4, 1843 ; Josiah O., Nov. 14, 1845 ; Sarah J., Nov. 9, 1847 ;



Philemon, Feb. 14, 1850; John W., Nov. 30, 1852; Alverdo, Dec. 13, 1857. Catherine, wife of Francis Huffen, died Feb. 22, 1874; Henry H. was a member of Co. D. 110th O. V. I., and at his country's call went nobly forth in defense of his country, and to help save the honor of his flag; on the 5th of May, the first day of the great and ever-memorable and disastrous battle of the Wilderness in Virginia, he fell, pierced by the enemy's bullets, while charging on a rebel stronghold, and, like many of his brave comrades in arms, his body lay for days between the contending lines of vast armies, amid the clash and turmoil of incessant battle, and to-day his remains are peacefully at rest on the ground where he fought to win. Mr. and Mrs. Cromwell have been members of the United Brethren Church for forty years, and their large family of children are co-workers with their parents in the cause and advancement of the Christian religion.

**JOHN FASIG**, merchant tailor and Justice of the Peace, Ithaca; the subject of this sketch was born in Sprendlingen, Grossherzogthum, Darmstadt, Germany, March 14, 1831; he is a son of John and Susan Fasig. Mr. Fasig emigrated to America in 1855, landing in New York in October, and made his way to Euphemia, Preble Co., Ohio, where he engaged in tailoring for upward of one year, when he removed to Ithaca and engaged in the same business which he is still engaged in. He was united in marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of Franz and Doratha Croell, May 28, 1854; twelve children have been given to this union, viz.: Luzetta, born April 27, 1856, died April 13, 1860; John, born Sept. 9, 1857, died Sept. 12, 1859; Mary, born Feb. 18, 1859, died March 25, 1861; Minnie L., born Aug. 15, 1860; Margaret L., born Sept. 5, 1861, died Oct. 3, 1862; Eliza, born Oct. 27, 1862; Catherine, born June 4, 1864; Charles A., born Oct. 31, 1866; Amanda S., born Aug. 23, 1868; Sarah J., born April 28, 1870, died April 29, 1872; William H., born March 22, 1873; Leah C., born Jan. 20, 1876. Truly, Mr. and Mrs. Fasig have a large and very interesting family; their charming daughters, with their various accomplishments, tend to make home a pleasant place. Mr. Fasig carries a fine stock of custom-made clothing, dry goods, notions, tobaccos and cigars, and if you want a perfect-fitting suit of clothes, give him a call. Politically, he is Democratic, and has been prominently identified in all the township offices, and has always carried the unanimous support of his constituents, which is ample proof of his official business capacity. Mrs. Fasig was born June 24, 1834, in Pfaffenshabenneim, Germany; she had two brothers and eight sisters; four came to this country, and two have since died—her elder brother was killed in the Mexican war.

**A. M. FLORY**, of the firm of Wallace & Flory, dealers in hardware and agricultural implements, Arcanum. The subject of this sketch was born May 12, 1851, and is a son of Henry and Catherine Flory, old residents of Montgomery Co., Ohio; his father followed coopering the greater part of his life, and was engaged in farming a short time previous to his death; his father dying when he was but 10 years of age, he went out into the world to take care of himself and battle with life, and, by energy and persevering industry, has overcome all obstacles, and so far has made life a success; at the age of 16 years, he learned the carpenter trade, which he followed till he removed to Arcanum, the last day of December, 1873, and on the 1st day of March, 1874, he opened a general hardware store in partnership with Mr. Wallace, in which business they are still engaged; he was united in marriage with Miss Catherine E., daughter of Henry Burns, March 19, 1874, her parents being residents of Preble County; Mr. Flory has been identified with the offices of his village, having been a member of the City Council, and has had the honor of Mayor conferred upon him by his fellow-townsmen.

**MICHAEL FLÖRY**, farmer; P. O. Gordon; the subject of this sketch was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, Dec. 22, 1811, being a son of Joseph and Elizabeth Flory; he resided in the county of his nativity till 1861, when he removed to Darke County, and settled on Sec. 26 of Twin Township, where he now resides. He was united in marriage with Hannah Wagerman in 1853, and by this





union they have had three children, of whom two are living, viz., John W., Elizabeth, and Joseph, deceased ; his farm is all in a good state of cultivation and has good improvements erected thereon.

JOHN C. HAMILTON, physician and surgeon; Ithaca; the subject of this memoir was born in Monroe County, Ohio, in 1852, and is a son of Jacob and Maria Hamilton, old residents of Monroe County; he received a good common-school education, and afterward entered the Mt. Union College in Stark County, where he prosecuted his studies with great energy for two years; he then read medicine, under the instructions of a very prominent physician of Louisville, Ohio, and afterward attended the full course of lectures at the Cincinnati Medical Institute, and finished his entire course of study, after much hard labor, in 1875, having gained his M. D., the goal of his ambition, and commenced the practice of medicine in Ithaca: he is a successful practitioner and a gentleman of ability and refinement. He was united in marriage with Miss Allie Drescher, of Cincinnati, Jan. 27, 1879.

DAVID A. HARSH, merchant, Arcanum. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born in Preble Co., Ohio, Dec. 25, 1838. His boyhood days were spent on his father's farm till his 16th year, at which time he began his struggle in life alone and unaided, save by his indomitable will and energy. He was engaged in Indiana as teamster for about eight months, then abandoned the business and engaged in carpentering, which he followed for five years. In the beginning of the war, he volunteered in the 11th O. V. I., and served four months, when he was honorably discharged from the service. In 1861, he engaged in storekeeping in Hill Grove, Darke Co., but, on account of failing health, he was obliged to relinquish his business and seek the out-door employment of the farm, and for two years carried on a farm in Preble Co.; thence he went to Lewisburg, where he remained for six years; thence to Arcanum, and followed butchering for two years; he then followed various pursuits till July 4, 1877, when he again engaged in the mercantile business, and, by judicious management, has built up a good trade, receiving his full share of the public patronage. He married Susanna Studebaker, daughter of D. and Elizabeth Studebaker, of Darke Co. Mr. and Mrs. Harsh are members of the Reformed Church and are zealous workers in the cause of religion. He is a member of the Libanius Lodge, No. 80, is in good standing, and his motto is onward and upward in the order.

FRANCIS M. HUFFER, farmer; P. O. Ithaca. Born in Greene Co., Ohio, June 29, 1837, and, in 1839, he, with his parents, came to Darke Co., where he remained at home until 1858. At that time, he united in marriage with Catherine V. Cromwell, and by this union they have three sons and two daughters; in the year 1874, Mrs. Huffer departed this life. During life she was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Huffer has since united in marriage with Louisa Reidenhour, and they are living on his farm, in Sec. 23, Twin Township; he has one among the best stock and grain farms in the township, beautifully located north of Ithaca, with a good gravel road on the east and west, and several good fountains on the east side of it, the land being worth probably \$100 per acre.

GEORGE IVESTER, farmer and miller, Sec. 4; P. O. Arcanum. The subject of this memoir was born in Chester Co., Penn., Aug. 10, 1821; he only had the advantage of a common-school education, such as the country afforded upwards of fifty years ago, and when out of school assisted his father in a nail factory; at the age of 13 years, he commenced his career in the world alone and unaided, save his own willing hands, and inflexible will; in 1834, he removed to Miami Co., Ohio, where he worked on a farm for three years, and then entered a blacksmith-shop and soon became a proficient in his trade, which he prosecuted for twenty years; in the spring of 1849, he was seized with the gold fever that raged so at that time, and made an overland trip to the Pacific Coast, which occupied 130 days; in the fall of 1854, he settled in Darke Co., in Twin Township, where he purchased 148 acres





of land where, he now lives, all of which is in a high state of cultivation; in the summer of 1875, he erected a large and magnificent dwelling in the pleasant little village of Arcanum, and its pleasant grounds and beautiful surroundings make it the most desirable place in the village. He celebrated his marriage with Miss Rebecca, daughter of William and Catherine Davis, Feb. 24, 1851. Six children have been given to this union, viz.: Martha J., born Jan. 11, 1853; William H., born Aug. 5, 1855; Emma J., born May 13, 1858; Olive V., born April 14, 1862; Allie O., born March 27, 1864; Mina B., born Dec. 23, 1868. The parents of Mr. Ivester were residents of Chester Co., Penn.; his father was born in 1784, and died at the age of 58 years, in the county of his nativity; his mother was born in the latter part of the eighteenth century, and departed this life about 1839. Mr. Ivester has had his full share of petty offices, and informs us that he has never been a political aspirant. Mrs. Ivester was born in Logan Co., Jan. 18, 1825.

**BENJAMIN C. JACKSON**, farmer and teacher; P. O. Arcanum. Born in New Jersey July 4, 1828; his parents being dead, he lived with his grandfather until 1845, when he entered the Mt. Retirement Seminary, Sussex Co., Vt., where he remained until 1848, then engaged in teaching till 1851, at which time he entered upon duty with the N.Y. & E.R.R. Co. as telegraph, freight and ticket agent at Chester, Orange Co., N. Y., where he remained until 1856; he then engaged as book-keeper in a wholesale cigar and liquor store in New York City until 1857, and since has been principally engaged in teaching. In 1861, he united in marriage in Montgomery Co., Ohio, with Mary A. Kimmel, and by this union has two children, viz., Carrie V. and George E. In 1872, he came to Darke Co. and bought the farm of 57 acres where he now lives, in Sec. 7, valued at \$3,500.

**HARRISON A. KEPNER**, hardware and grocer, Arcanum. The subject of this sketch was born in Perry Co., Penn., May 14, 1836; he was the son of a family of eleven children, whose father, Jacob Kepner, was born in Juniata Co., Penn., July 21, 1806, and whose mother, Catharine (Kanawell) Kepner, was born in Berks County, same State, Nov. 11, 1808. Having resided in his native county until the age of 21, he left the parental roof, and, wholly dependent upon his own resources and energy, began the struggle of life. Subsequently, he emigrated to Allen Co., Ohio, where he remained about one year, then finally settled in Darke Co. in the spring of 1858; on the 4th day of September in the following year, he married Miss Sarah, daughter of George and Lydia Brumbaugh, who were then old residents of the county; the fruits of this marriage were four children, three of whom are now living, viz.: Clara C., born in 1862; Harry V., born in 1867, and Bertha N., born in 1877. Mr. Kepner's political sympathies are with the Democratic party, and his influence has been lent to the advancement of the principles which he advocates. The party has recognized and reciprocated by bestowing upon him various offices of trust and responsibility, which he has in every case most creditably filled, and by his genial manners and uprightness of character has won friends among all with whom he has been brought in contact.

**J. H. KRAUS**, of the firm of Kraus & Clark, Arcanum. The subject of this sketch was born in Butler Co., Ohio, in 1840, and is a son of Benjamin and Nancy Kraus, both natives of Lancaster Co., Penn., and removed to New York State, in 1835, and to Butler Co., in 1836, and to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1846, where they still continue to reside; they are the parents of two children, viz.: Amanda C., now Mrs. D. H. Wilson, who resides in Montgomery Co., Ohio, and J. H., the subject of this sketch; his grandparents were natives of Pennsylvania; his grandfather, Kraus, was born in 1778, and died at the age of 82 years; his grandmother, Kraus, was born in 1780, and died at the age of 84 years; his grandparents on his mother's side were Jacob and Elizabeth (Keeler) Shell, also natives of Pennsylvania; Mr. Shell dying at the age of 77, and Mrs. Shell at the advanced age of 80 years. Mr. Kraus was engaged in the mercantile business for a period of five years, and removed to Arcanum in October, 1870, and engaged in the business he still continues to follow. He was united in marriage with Miss C. E., daughter of Jacob and





Nellie (Niswonger) Swank June 22, 1871, her parents being residents of Montgomery Co.; two children have been given to this union, viz.: Harry B., born Aug. 10, 1876; Waldo J., born April 2, 1879; he has, by his own exertions and studious habits, succeeded in making himself well versed in educational matters, and as a reward for his persevering industry and popular business ways, has made life a success, and is literally one of the self-made men of Darke Co.; though Mr. Kraus is no political aspirant, his fellow-townsmen have voted him a full share of local offices. Mrs. Kraus has been a lifelong member of the U. B. Church, and is a hard-working, consistent, Christian woman, and greatly interested in the emulation of the Christian religion.

THOMAS McCOWEN, farmer and stock-dealer; P. O. Arcanum; was born in Darke Co., Ohio, Nov. 7, 1828, and is a son of John McCowen, a native of Bellbrook, Ireland, who came to North America when but 3 years old, and was one of the patriots of 1812; came to Darke Co. in 1826, being one of the pioneers of this county, where he died in 1850. Our subject spent his boyhood days on a farm in summer, and in winter devoted his time to school, as much as time and convenience would admit, which at that time were limited. In 1850, he united in marriage with Sarah J. Mears, and by this union they have three children, viz.: Mary A., now Mrs. O. B. Pierce; Catherine and Irvin. When Mr. McCowen commenced for himself, he had no money by which to assist him in life; he has since, by industry and economy, become the possessor of 233 acres of valuable land in Secs. 17, 19 and 20, Twin Township; is located on the Ithaca and Ft. Jefferson free turnpike. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch, has been a member of the Masonic Fraternity for thirty-two years; the oldest member of the Ithaca Lodge, also a member of the I. O. O. F. for a number of years; has been an active member of the Darke Co. Agricultural Association; at present is President of the same; has held the office of Twin Township Trustee four years.

ANNA M. MARSHALL, retired, Gordon. The lady whose name heads this sketch was born in the State of New York Dec. 2, 1813, and removed in infancy with her parents to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1815; her father, Lewis Mundhenk, was born in Wittenberg, Germany, in 1784; her mother, Mary A. Feit, was born in Rotterburn, Germany, in 1789; they were married in New York June 4, 1811; Mr. Mundhenk departed this life at the age of 74 years; Mrs. Mundhenk is living at the advanced age of 90 years, and is still hale and hearty. Our subject was united in marriage with Philip Marshall, April 17, 1834; he was a son of Henry and Mary Marshall, who were natives of New Jersey, afterward residents of Montgomery Co., Ohio; Mr. Marshall departed this life March 10, 1838, aged 26 years; she still bears the name of her departed husband, and was 67 years of age the day this sketch was written. Two children were given to this short but happy union, of whom only one survives, viz.: Mary A., born Jan. 12, 1835; Philip L., March 28, 1838, died May 19, 1838; Mary A.'s first marriage was consummated with John Mills; her second marriage was celebrated with Mr. Troxall, Nov. 3, 1864; to their union three children have been given, viz.: Watson E., born Sept. 5, 1865; John D., Oct. 18, 1868; Letta N., Dec. 11, 1870. Mr. Troxall had been previously married to Susan Heater; four children were the fruits of their union, viz.: Emma B., born July 27, 1858; Martha A., Jan. 25, 1860; Mary E., July 3, 1861; Mrs. Troxall departed this life April 15, 1864, aged 29 years 6 months and 25 days; he was a son of David Troxall, a native of Pennsylvania, who departed this life in 1840; his wife removed to Ohio in 1847, and died in July, 1861.

DAVID E. MUNDHENK, farmer; P. O. Gordon. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1831; he is a son of Lewis and Mary Mundhenk, and a brother to Mrs. Anna Marshall, whose sketch, with that of her parents, appeared in this work. Our subject's boyhood days were spent on his father's farm, where he assisted in agricultural pursuits until his 21st year, when he began life for himself, and for three years faithfully labored in Montgomery Co., and then removed to Darke Co., where he now





resides. He was united in marriage with Elizabeth Reed, who is a daughter of John and Barbara Reed; they were natives of Westmoreland Co., Penn., and removed to Montgomery Co. in 1836, where they resided until Mr. Reed's death, which occurred in February, 1840; then his wife removed to this county, where she resided until her death, Feb. 17, 1870, aged about 76 years. Mr. Mundhenk is one of Darke Co.'s self-made men, having begun life empty-handed, and by hard work and good management, coupled with frugality, he and his amiable wife have accomplished the great object in life—made a good home, being now in possession of 160 acres of as good land as is to be found in the county; the improvements are No. 1 in every particular; his large house, which has recently been built, and its pleasant surroundings, make his premises a very attractive place. Six children are the fruits of their union, viz., Clement V., born March 29, 1864; Charles J., born July 14, 1866; Eddie M., born Nov. 7, 1868; three dying in infancy. Politically, Mr. Mundhenk is a Democrat of the old Jacksonian school, but has never been a political aspirant.

**PHILIP MUNDHENK**, farmer; P. O. Arcanum; was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, July 19, 1816; he is a son of Lewis and Mary Mundhenk, and a brother of Daniel, whose sketch appears here; also a brother of Mrs. Marshall, in whose sketch proper mention is made of his parents; he resided in his native county with his parents until his marriage, which was celebrated with Mary A. King May 11, 1848; she was a daughter of John and Elizabeth King, who were among the early settlers of Darke Co.; he settled in Darke Co. in 1848, and on the place where he now resides in 1853; he first purchased 160 acres of land, covered with a dense forest, which has entirely disappeared from view, and in its stead highly cultivated fields, rich and productive; a fine barn and a large brick residence which he has erected, at a cost of \$3,000, mark the place where a few years ago the handiwork of nature reposed in all its grandeur; he has since added to the original purchase, and now owns 260 acres of fine land, all in a high state of cultivation. In August, 1878, he was rendered houseless by the devouring flames. Eight children have been given to their union, viz.: Lewis R., born Feb. 28, 1849; John, March 9, 1851; Elizabeth R., Feb. 16, 1853; Martha J., Jan. 28, 1855; Dora C., March 22, 1857; Philip A., July 6, 1861; Charles F., Jan. 12, 1867; Albert D., Jan. 30, 1870, and departed this life March 15, 1872.

**WILLIAM NEALEIGH**, farmer and minister of the Gospel; P. O. Arcanum, was born in Preble Co., Ohio, Sept. 28, 1811; his parents were Henry and Elizabeth Nealeigh. He married Rachael Shields, of Preble Co., Nov. 17, 1831, and settled in Darke Co. in January 1837, on Sec. 3, Twin Township. Of his experience, Mr. Nealeigh writes as follows: "We were married in 1831, and commenced life with \$30; in January, 1837, we emigrated to Darke County and settled on the land where we have since lived; in five years, we had earned and paid for our 163 acres of land, \$555. The forest looked wild; there were wolves and deer in abundance, and the mosquitoes were so numerous that, when I went out of an evening to shoot squirrels, they would alight so thick on my gun barrel that I could not see the sights, unless I fired very quickly, but now, the wilderness has become a fruitful field, thank God! The first spring, we made a flour barrel full of sugar, and twenty gallons of molasses; in 1840, we were both converted to God, and in 1843, a Christian Church, called the Panther Creek Christian Church, and a meeting-house was built one mile south of Arcanum; we were two of the charter members, and the only two now living; I there commenced preaching. The church was two miles from our home, and we often traveled that distance six times in one day and night, carrying a child in our arms; I traveled and preached wherever I could, and worked on my farm the balance of my time; I have preached forty years, and during my ministry have delivered 3,029 sermons, 1,586 exhortations, attended 304 funerals, solemnized 213 marriages, prayed with the sick 470 times, received into the church 422 members, baptized 212, made 153 speeches of various kinds, and traveled 40,324 miles, for which I have received about \$500.





per year. I was once young, and now I am old, and I never saw the righteous forsaken or their seed begging bread, thank God ! Mr. Nealeigh. has, in addition to the labors he has enumerated, raised a family of ten children.

GEORGE NISONGER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 23 : P. O. Gordon. Ohio. The subject of this sketch is one of the old residents of Darke Co.; he was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Oct. 16, 1823, and is a son of George and Fanny Nisonger, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. Nisonger resided in the county of his nativity until he removed to Twin Township, Darke Co., in 1849. He was united in marriage, in 1853, to Miss Louisa, daughter of John and Lydia St. Clair, natives of Pennsylvania, who removed to Ohio at an early day ; four children have been given to this union, viz. : Catherine, born Dec. 25, 1854 ; John W., born June 20, 1859 ; Henry, born March 12, 1862 ; Silas, born Jan. 5, 1867. Catherine was married in the fall of 1872, to George Mathews, and resides on an adjoining farm ; John W. died Jan. 7, 1863. Both Mr. and Mrs. Nisonger are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are zealous, energetic Christians. Mr. and Mrs. Mathews are also members of the same church. Mr. Nisonger has 40 acres in his home farm, which is in a good state of cultivation.

DANIEL B. OLWINE, livery and exchange, Arcanum : the subject of this sketch we are pleased to place in the foremost ranks of the early pioneers of Darke Co.. he was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1835, and is a son of David and Nancy Olwine, and removed with his parents to Van Buren Township in the spring of 1839. Mr. Olwine, the subject of this sketch, was only 4 years old at the time, but has many vivid recollections of the early pioneer life ; he assisted his father in the duties of farming, and, as a matter of course, young David had his part to perform in the many log rollings that were necessary before the dense forest of Darke Co., could be subjected to the use of the plow ; he labored on his father's farm till 18 years of age, or in 1853, when he commenced his career without a dollar in his pocket or a second suit of clothes ; he served an apprenticeship as carpenter for one year, for which he received \$3 per month, when he hired to another party for better wages and labored for three years, for which he received \$18 per month. His marriage was celebrated on Oct. 1, 1857, with Miss Amanda Jones, daughter of Henry and Susan Jones, old residents of Darke Co., Ohio ; after his marriage, he was without funds to procure the necessary furniture for house-keeping ; but by negotiating a small loan from his father-in-law, he procured a little lumber and manufactured his own furniture for housekeeping, renting a farm in Adams Township, near Gettysburg, on which he lived for one year : selling out again, he embarked in the carpenter business in Harrison and Adams Townships, which he prosecuted till 1860, when he again engaged in farming till 1864 ; he then engaged in the cabinet business and followed cabinet-making till 1869, and then handled walnut lumber for two years ; in the fall of 1871, he again resumed the cabinet-making business ; in the spring of 1872, he removed to Arcanum and engaged in his previous business for two years ; during that time he erected a very fine residence, then kept hotel and dealt in real estate till 1875 ; selling out the hotel business, he purchased a large livery and barn and contents, which business he still continues to follow. Mr. Olwine has had a checkered career, and in all of his ups and downs he has been nobly assisted by his amiable and estimable wife. His barn contains many fine turnouts, and we would advise any who wants a drive to call on Dan. Eleven children have been given to this union, of whom all are living except three, two having died in infancy—Franklin T., was born Aug. 21, 1858 ; Susan B., May 8, 1860 ; Nancy J., Sept. 4, 1862 ; Ida L., Sept. 9, 1864 ; Essie G., Aug. 11, 1868 ; Gladis M., Dec. 20, 1870 ; Adda F., June 21, 1873 ; Parlie M., April 15, 1876 ; Nancy J., died April 15, 1869, aged 7 years 7 months and 11 days.

B. F. OZIAS, freight, ticket and telegraph agent, Arcanum ; on the D. & U. R. R. To the above-named gentleman we are pleased to record a space in this work ; he was born in Preble County, Ohio, Nov. 17, 1837, where he was





brought up on the farm until 1855, and received a common-school education, after which he took a short course in the Seven-Mile Academy; after returning from the seminary, was engaged in various pursuits until 1867, when he opened a drug store in Galveston, Ind., which business he followed until 1869; at this time sold out and came to Arcanum, Darke Co., where he has since resided, and up to 1872 was variously engaged; at this time, he was appointed to the office he now holds, and duly fills; our subject, since a resident of Twin Township, has been elected as Township Clerk two terms, Township Trustee one term, and Trustee of the Arcanum School Committee while erecting their new school building in 1870.

JOHN W. PARKS, farmer and teacher; P. O. Arcanum; born in Preble County, Ohio, Oct. 22, 1839; is a son of Samuel Parks, a native of Preble County, born Feb. 22, 1818, and who, in 1839, united in marriage with Lydia McDonald; seven children are the fruits of this union, who are all living, are married, and have families. Our subject remained at home at his birthplace until 1860, when he united in marriage with Minerva J. Gates, and by this union have one son, Clinton F.; from the date of his marriage to 1870, he made several changes at which time he came to Darke County and purchased a farm near Arcanum. Mr. Parks has, since the age of 18, been a live and energetic teacher of Sunday school, and, since a resident of this county, held the office of Justice of the Peace three years; he has recently bought and improved a small farm in Sec. 4, where he is comfortably situated for life.

JOHN R. RATLIFF, harness-maker; P. O. Arcanum. The subject of this memoir was born near Oxford, Ohio, Dec. 9, 1842, and is a son of Robert and Lucinda (Lee) Ratliff, old settlers of Butler County. Our subject resided with his father till he was 21 years of age and assisted in the labors of the farm; he then began life for himself, and engaged in farming for about ten years; then sold the implements of the farm, he engaged in harness-making, which occupation he still follows. He was united in marriage, Dec. 22, 1864, with Miss Minerva, daughter of David and Catherine Conners, residents of Butler Co. Mr. and Mrs. Ratliff are the parents of four children, namely: Ellsworth, born Dec. 27, 1865, deceased; Charles E., born Feb. 25, 1867; Stella K., born Dec. 10, 1870; Thomas C., born Nov. 8, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Ratliff are members of the Presbyterian Church and are zealous workers in the cause of religion, and exemplary Christian people.

JOHN Y. ROBBINS, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 29; P. O. Ithaca. Is one of the oldest continuous residents of Darke Co. that we have had the pleasure of meeting with; he was born in Ithaca Sept. 28, 1820, and has lived within one mile of his birth place for nearly threescore years; he has seen the dense forests of Darke County melt away before the woodman's ax and the onward march of improvement and civilization; he has seen the dismal and gloomy swamps, which bred malaria and death, robbed of their deadly poisons, subdued, renovated and improved, and to-day, owing to the vast quantities of decayed vegetable matter, these quagmires are the most productive lands to be found in Darke County. His parents emigrated from North Carolina to the Stillwater, in Miami County, in 1800, afterward to Darke County in 1815, and to Richard and Rebecca Robbins belong the honor of being the first actual settlers in Twin Township. The subject of our sketch celebrated his marriage with Susan, daughter of Adam and Elizabeth Rhidenour, June 11, 1840, and were natives of Maryland, and removed to Darke County in 1836 or 1837; children—Martha A., Adam, Sarah, Ellen, Malinda, Daniel, Melzena, Ella, William and Alberta; Martha and Ellen deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Robbins are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and bearers of the Cross for many years.

C. B. ROBBINS, farmer, Sec. 19; P. O. Arcanum.

ABRAM RYNEARSON, farmer; P. O. Ithaca. Born in Warren Co., Ohio, April 27, 1812, and is a son of Nicholas Rynearson, born in New Jersey in 1760 and about 1792, married Miss Jane Elison, who was born in New Jersey Aug. 20,





1769; by this union they had ten children; in 1806, they emigrated to Warren Co., Ohio; Mr. Nicholas Rynearson came from New Jersey to Ohio in a large wagon; he died in Warren Co. Feb. 24, 1822. The subject of this sketch remained at home with his parents till 1829, at which time he entered upon the apprenticeship of wagon-making. On Dec. 18, 1834, he was united in marriage with Rachel Ball, who was born in Deerfield Township, Warren Co., Ohio, Aug. 12, 1817; her father, Luther Ball, was born in New Jersey in 1777, and Miss Elizabeth Fry, his wife, was born in Maryland in 1793; they had four children; the children of Abram and Rachel (Ball) Rynearson were nine in number, six daughters and three sons, of whom there are two daughters deceased; Abram, after marriage, lived in Warren Co. until 1836, at which time he moved to Twin Township, and, when he came, found plenty of deer and turkeys; on moving to his farm in Sec. 29, where he now lives, he found it densely covered with huge oaks, beech, and a heavy growth of underbrush, which he and his family have, through industry, opened, so that it makes a beautiful farm home, where he and his companions are comfortably situated for life. Mr. and Mrs. R. have for many years been consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Ithaca, thereby lighting up the path of Christianity, that their children may not stray from it.

G. W. SINGERFOOS, deceased. The subject of this sketch was born in the State of Maryland Dec. 13, 1825; he emigrated to Montgomery, Ohio, when 9 years of age, his early life being devoted to farming and teaching. Upon the 28th of July, 1850, he was united in marriage with Nancy Shanck, a daughter of Peter Shanck, whose biography appears among the sketches of Monroe Township, in another part of this work; she was born in Montgomery Co. Oct. 2, 1830; upon the marriage of Mr. S., he followed brickmaking and school-teaching some five years in Phillipsburg; in 1855, he engaged in the dry-goods trade at Georgetown, Miami Co., continuing the same ten years; he then devoted six years to farming, then came to Gordon and again engaged in the dry-goods trade, and in 1872 came to Arcanum and engaged in the dry-goods trade, continuing the same until his death, which occurred Oct. 16, 1875. The children of G. W. and Nancy (Shanck) Singerfoos were six in number, viz.: Lorin, born Aug. 25, 1851, died Nov. 28, 1870; Orrin, born March 22, 1853, died Aug. 12, 1870; Arrabella, born Oct. 22, 1856; Ella B., Jan. 26, 1863; Charles P., May 4, 1865, and Edward, Dec. 14, 1868. It will be seen by the above that the family circle remained unbroken until Aug. 12, 1870, when the death messenger entered and claimed Orrin as its first victim, and the November following again made his appearance, this time laying his cold, icy hands upon the first-born; thus within the short space of about three months two of the members of this happy family were removed from earth to Heaven, followed five years later by the death of a kind husband and father.

JOHN SMITH, merchant; P. O. Arcanum: one of the old settlers of Darke Co.; he was born in Adams Co., Penn., in 1828, and removed, with his parents, to Preble Co., Ohio, in 1835 or 1836, and resided there till 1850, when he removed to Sampson, in Darke Co., where he remained about one year, thence to Arcanum, in 1851, and opened a store of general merchandise, it being the first store ever opened in Arcanum. The dimensions of this building were only 16x24 feet, and would present a striking contrast in comparison with his large, elegant and commodious store of the present day—the latter being 90x32 feet. Mr. Smith is one of the pioneer merchants of Darke Co., and has for thirty years been passing through the different phases of mercantile life, and by his strict business integrity and popular business habits, built up a trade that is second to none in Darke Co. He was united in marriage with Sophia McNutt in 1851; they were the parents of three children, viz., Milton W., Leonidas H., Theophilus D. Mrs. Smith departed this life Feb. 7, 1859, leaving a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn her loss; his marriage with Delia V. Bittle was celebrated in 1863; the children by this union were Edwin S., Bertelle L., Roy C., Maude C. and Mamie W.; the above are all living. The deceased, Elmer E., was born Dec. 4, 1864,





and died Sept. 9, 1866. Mr. Smith is a son of Jesse and Christina (Dietrich) Smith, natives of Adams Co., Penn., both deceased; Mr. Smith died at the age of 69 years; Mrs. Smith at the age of 40.

A. F. SMITH, druggist, Arcanum; one of the old settlers of Darke Co. and is a son of Jesse and Christina Smith, natives of Pennsylvania. He removed with his parents from Pennsylvania, to Preble Co., Ohio, in 1836, and remained there for a period of sixteen years, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits till 1852, when he abandoned that occupation, and removed to Arcanum the same year, and assisted his brothers in their business for two years, when he again resumed farming in Twin Township for a period of five years; and thirsting for a more active life, he returned to Arcanum and entered in a general mercantile business, which he followed for twelve years, with fair success; then embarked in the drug business, which he is still engaged in, and carries a full and perfect stock of drugs, paints, oils, and everything found in a first-class retail house. He was united in marriage with Miss Jane M., daughter of Herman and Margaret Conners, residents of Darke Co., in September, 1854. Two children have been given to this union, viz., Margaret E. and Eberle S. Mr. and Mrs. Conners departed this life within a few hours of each other, and their bodies were interred in the same grave.

WILLIAM M. SMITH, miller, grain and tobacco dealer, also dealer and shipper of live stock, Arcanum, Ohio. We could hardly do justice to the business interest of Arcanum without devoting a brief space of this work to the gentleman whose name heads this sketch, as we consider that the local interests of the town as well as the surrounding country owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Smith, as conducting his many branches of business in a highly honorable manner, and supplying a market for the productions of the surrounding country. He was born in Adams Co., Penn., Nov. 16, 1829, and in the sketch of his brother, John Smith, will be found a more extended genealogy of the family. The subject of our sketch came to Ohio about the year 1836, and located in Preble Co.; here he was raised to and followed agricultural pursuits until 1853, when he came to this place and clerked in the store of his brother one year. For the next ten years he was engaged in the general merchandise and grain trade, disposing of the same in 1860; he then devoted one year to the real-estate business, the three years succeeding being agent of the D. & U. R. R.; about the year 1872, he erected his present warehouse, since which time he has successfully followed the above business, his shipments of grain in a season to the Eastern markets being upward of 200,000 bushels, his purchases of tobacco being disposed of for export; his mill has a capacity of from 400 to 500 bushels a day, the production of which is shipped largely in car-load lots to the New England States; his shipments of live stock will exceed fifty car-loads yearly; and, as stated above, we consider the business as conducted by the above gentleman of great importance to the interests of Arcanum and the surrounding country. Upon the 16th of February, 1852, he was united in marriage with Maria Keltner; she was a native of Indiana, but came to Montgomery Co. with her parents when quite young. They are the parents of four sons and two daughters, viz., John W., Seges, Jesse C., Charles E., Daisy and William R.

JAMES STEELE, farmer; P. O. Arcanum, Ohio. To the subject of this sketch we are pleased to accord a place in the front rank of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; he was born in Maryland in 1802; in 1812, he removed with his mother to Butler Co., Ohio, and labored faithfully for the maintenance of his widowed mother and the support of the family; his father died when he was only 8 years old, and the responsibility of providing for the family rested exclusively on our subject; young as he was, he fully understood the situation, and labored faithfully for the support and comfort of the family till he attained his 21st year, at which time he learned the blacksmith's trade, which, combined with farming, made life very successful; in 1868, on account of failing health and rapid advancement of old age, he abandoned the anvil and forge, and his attentions have been



exclusively directed to the farm; Mr. Steele has lived on the farm he purchased at Government price, for forty-five years; he has lived to see the monarchs of the forest laid low by the onward march of civilization, the wilderness robbed of its verdure, the desolate and pestilential swamps deprived of their poisons and converted into productive fields; truly, the change has been great—a howling wilderness has been conquered and subjected to the use of a great industrial people within half a century, and still the resources of Darke Co. are not more than half developed. He united in marriage with Jemima Johns, March 6, 1825; twelve children have been given to this union, of whom ten are living, viz., Elizabeth and Hannah (twins), Uriah, Stephen, Thomas, Martha, Asher, Ellen, Eliza and Mary (twins), William and Catherine having died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Steele have lived to see their children all married and comfortably situated in life; they have taken great pains in educating them, five of whom are successful educators.

ELIJAH THATCHER, farmer; P. O. Arcanum; was born in Genesee Co., N. Y., Aug. 31, 1828, and is the fourth son of Moses and Mary (Wert) Thatcher, the former born in New York Oct. 6, 1804, the latter in New Jersey Nov. 10, 1807; ten children are the fruits of this union, viz.: George R., born March 30, 1832; Nathaniel, born Feb. 2, 1834; Godfrey, March 10, 1836; Moses, Dec. 28, 1840; Mary A., March 21, 1843; Loraine, Aug. 30, 1846; Sarah E., Feb. 3, 1849; Charlotte, June 8, 1850; John P., July 7, 1854. The parents and five children are deceased. Elijah remained at home principally through life, and in the year 1844 came with the family to Darke Co., where he has since resided; he is the only child living that has not united in marriage. In the year 1860, he commenced life for himself, and since then has been engaged in agricultural pursuits. Having started with nothing, he has since, by industry and economy, become the possessor of 40 acres of land in Sec. 22, Twin Township, which is well improved and under good cultivation; it is valued at about \$3,000. During the last days of his parents, he performed a child's duty by caring for them. In the late rebellion, he did his share in the field of war, and now lives a quiet life on the home farm of his sister.

JOHN L. THOMAS, retired; P. O. Arcanum; to the subject of this sketch we are pleased to accord a place in the advance guard of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; he was born in Greene Co., Ohio, Feb. 16, 1827, and removed with his parents when in infancy to German Township, in Darke Co., where his parents settled in 1827; his early boyhood days were spent at home, and, at the age of 16, he began life for himself and did carpenter work for fifteen years, when he commenced the study of medicine at the Allopathic College in Cincinnati, where he prosecuted his studies with much energy; he was engaged in money-lending and doing a general brokerage business for a number of years, and in 1878, he with his son opened a bank in Arcanum. He celebrated his marriage with Sarah A. Emerson, in June, 1849; she was a daughter of Gen. Henry Emerson, President of the Farmers' National Bank of Greenville; four children were given to this union, viz.: Francis V., deceased; Alonzo S., Joseph E., Sarah J.; Mrs. Thomas departed this life Jan. 30, 1867, leaving a large circle of friends to mourn her departure; a kind wife, an affectionate mother, are the tablets erected to her memory by her husband and children. He was again united in marriage with Nannevine Ballard, Nov. 29, 1871; one child has been given to this union, viz., John Volney.

THEODORE O. WARNER, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Arcanum. The subject of this sketch was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Nov. 24, 1842; he was reared on a farm and assisted his father in agricultural pursuits till his 21st year; he, by hard labor, succeeded in obtaining a fair education in the common district schools; at the age of 21, he commenced life for himself and worked at various pursuits for three years, when he was united in marriage with Miss Celestia E. Yeasel in 1866. The parents of Mr. Warner were born in Maryland, and removed to Montgomery County, Ohio, in 1828; his father died Sept. 3, 1874, aged 71





years; his mother still continues to reside on the old home farm, and is now 72 years of age. The subject of our sketch was engaged in farming in Montgomery County till the spring of 1875, and then removed to Darke County, in Twin Township, where he still resides. Both Mr. and Mrs. Warner have been members of the Reformed Church upward of ten years, and are both zealous workers in the cause of religion. The father of Mrs. Warner, John Yeasel, was born in Virginia Oct. 15, 1804, and her mother, Susannah, was born in Warren Co., Ohio, Nov. 1, 1820; they were united in marriage Sept. 14, 1842, her maiden name being Susannah Aughe.

**JOHN WEIKLE**, retired farmer; P. O. Arcanum. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1804, and removed with his parents to Butler Co., Ohio, in 1814; here he assisted his father in agricultural pursuits until 1837. He has been thrice married, first with Sarah Shaffer, who bore him four children; she departed this life in 1853. In 1855, he was married to Mrs. Mary Knox, by whom he had one child, Mrs. Weikle dying soon after. His third and last marriage was celebrated with Christiana Williams, two children being the result of this union. Mr. Weikle has, by his own hard labor, skill and industry, succeeded in making a comfortable home in which to enjoy his declining years. He has been a member of the Reformed Dutch Church upward of fifty years, and a continuous resident of Darke Co. twenty-eight years.

**JEREMIAH WHITENACK**, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 7; P. O. Arcanum. To the subject of this sketch we are pleased to accord a place in the front ranks of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; he was born in Somerset Co., N. J., Oct. 19, 1802; he assisted his father in the labors of the farm, and removed with his parents to Warren Co., Ohio, in 1823, and still continued to assist his father in farming and weaving till 1828. He was united in marriage, June 26 of the same year, to Miss Lavina, daughter of George and Elenore Camblin, residents of Pennsylvania; one child has been given to this union, viz., John C., whose sketch appears in this work. Mr. Whitenack settled in Darke Co. in 1837, upon 68 acres of land, where he still resides. He and his wife are members of the Reformed Church, and are greatly interested in the advancement of the Christian religion, and have borne the cross for upward of fifty years; his house has been the house of God, where his neighbors congregated to worship their Maker in their wilderness home. In the year 1858, the parents of Mrs. Whitenack, becoming old and infirm, came to her home and lived with her until their death; Mr. Camblin died at the age of 81 years, and Mrs. Camblin at the age of 73.

**MARTIN WILD**, Twin Township Clerk; P. O. Arcanum; born in Scotland, near Glasgow, May 15, 1850; his father was born in Liverpool, and mother in Germany, and died in Scotland. Our subject, in 1856, with his father, brother and sister, emigrated to Germany, where he attained a German education. In the spring of 1860, they traversed the countries of France, Prussia, and the Rhenish part of Germany; and on the 10th of May following, they boarded a sailing vessel, at Havre de Grace, France, for the United States, and landed in New York city in the following month; soon after, it is supposed, their father enlisted in the late rebellion; nothing has been heard of him since. Martin W., though but a boy, engaged in various pursuits whereby he supported himself until 1868, at which time he emigrated to Darke Co., where he now resides. In 1870, commenced the plastering trade, which has since been his occupation, and during the time (10 years) of his life in Twin Township he has held the office of Constable one year, Township Clerk four years, and is now a candidate for County Recorder, subject to the Democratic Primary election, for 1880. On May 11, 1872, he united in marriage with Susan Siler, and by this union they have four children, of whom one is deceased, and three living viz.: Gertie, Eddie C. and Ethel.

**THOMAS H. WILLIAMS**, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 32; P. O. Ithaca. The subject of this memoir is almost among the many old settlers to be found in Twin Township; he was born in Washington Co., Penn., July 5, 1806, and is a





son of John and Margaret Williams : his father was a native of Maryland, his mother being born in Washington Co., Penn. : he was reared on the farm, and assisted his father in agricultural pursuits till his 18th year, when he began life for himself, and engaged in ship-carpentering for three years, when, having gained his majority, he emigrated West, and traveled through the States of Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and, on his way up the Mississippi River to Wisconsin, he erected the first building in Keokuk, and also the first fine frame building in Madison, Iowa. This Western tour occupied about twelve years, when he removed to Pennsylvania, in 1839, and operated a saw-mill for two years, when he returned to Warren Co., Ohio, and was united in marriage with Miss Nancy, daughter of Barzilla and Mary Clark, Dec. 13, 1846. Her parents being residents of Warren Co., he remained in Warren Co. till the next year, and then removed to Darke Co., in Twin Township ; he first purchased 40 acres of land, on which he erected a frame dwelling, and moved his family into their new quarters in September, 1847 ; his land being in a wild state, Mr. Williams commenced his almost herculean task of removing the vast growth of timber and underbrush from the land, to prepare it for the implements of agriculture, and by dint of hard labor and perseverance, he succeeded in removing these obstructions ; in 1871, he purchased 80 acres more land, and in addition to the other, he now owns 120 acres of as fine land as is to be found in Darke Co. : all in a good state of cultivation. Politically, Mr. Williams is a sound Republican, and has been identified with the most of the township offices ; he, with his estimable wife, are leading members in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and have labored long and earnestly in their Master's vineyard. Mr. Williams is greatly interested in educational matters, and has spared neither pains nor expense in giving his children good educations, his son Thornton being a graduate of the Ohio Wesleyan University, and a proficient and successful educator. Mr. Williams informs us that James G. Blaine, America's greatest orator and statesman, was once a pupil in his brother's school, who was a very prominent educator in Pennsylvania. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Williams are nine in number, viz. : Clark L., born Dec. 7, 1848 ; Thornton R., born July 21, 1850 ; Frank M., born Nov. 3, 1852 ; Mary Belle, born May 31, 1854 ; Martha J., born March 31, 1856 ; Melissa A., born April 5, 1858 ; their first child died in infancy ; Clark departed this life Feb. 9, 1871 ; Frank died Aug. 30, 1868.

## BUTLER TOWNSHIP.

EVIN BAKER, deceased ; was born in Rockingham Co., Va., in 1808 ; died in 1863 ; a resident of this county nearly all his life ; was identified with most of the public improvements of the county ; was elected to the Legislature in 1854, and was the author of the Ohio ditch laws, and at the time of his death had a large law practice. He was President of the Richmond & Covington Railroad, for the location of which through Greenville he had labored long and earnestly.

BENJAMIN BOBENMOYER, retired farmer ; P. O. Arcanum ; a native of Pennsylvania, and a resident of Ohio for the past fifty years, and of Darke Co. nearly one-fourth of a century : is a brother to Charles Bobenmoyer, whose biography also appears in the Butler Township list. The subject of this sketch was born in Berks Co., Penn., in 1805 ; was brought up on a farm, and received but little education and that in German : was married in 1826 to Sarah Rhinesmith ; they removed from Pennsylvania to Butler Co., Ohio, about the year 1833 ; came to Darke Co. in 1853, and purchased the farm in Sec. 11, Butler Township, where they



now reside ; his farm then had an " opening " and a cabin on it, but was mostly woods and very wet and swampy ; since then, he, with the other settlers, have, by means of clearing and ditching, made this to rank with the best lands in Darke Co. he now has a pike in every direction from his place, good buildings, and in every way pleasantly situated and prepared to enjoy the remainder of his days, the fruit of his early toils and sacrifices. Mr. and Mrs. Bobenmoyer are substantial, respected people ; are the parents of thirteen children, ten of whom are living, five sons and five daughters—Eliza, now Mrs. William Banois, of Cincinnati ; Mary, now Mrs. Clarke Robinson, of Neave Township ; William, a resident of Middletown, Ohio ; Christena, now Mrs. Fred. Wagner ; Frederick, now a resident of Allentown, Penn. ; Sophia, now Mrs. John Bridenstine, of Hamilton, Ohio ; John, now a resident of California ; Nathan, a resident of Port Jefferson ; Kate, now Mrs. Abram Baker, of Twin Township, and Benjamin, Jr., now married, and residing on and farming the homestead.

CHARLES BOBENMOYER, farmer ; P. O. Arcanum ; a Pennsylvanian by birth and an old resident of Darke Co. : is the son of Frederick and Christena Ann Bobenmoyer ; was born in Berks Co., Penn., March 4, 1817 ; when about 14 years of age, his father came to Butler Co., Ohio, where Charles grew to manhood and was married to Caroline Burkholder April 20, 1847 : she is a daughter of Joseph and Barbara (Meyers) Burkholder, both of whom were natives of Lehigh Co., Penn. : Caroline was one of a family of ten children, all but one of whom grew to manhood or womanhood : she was born in Lehigh County Dec. 20, 1824 ; her parents emigrated to Butler Co., Ohio, when she was an infant ; Mr. and Mrs. Bobenmoyer began domestic life on his father's farm, in Butler County, and continued there six years ; then purchased and removed to the farm in Sec. 3, Butler Township, Darke County, where they now reside, having lived in the same house for more than a quarter of a century : most of the fine improvements and all the grave-roads and public ditches have been made during their residence here. Mr. Bobenmoyer commenced life a renter, and, by persevering labor and economy, saved enough to get a start in Darke County when Butler Township was yet new, and has grown with the growing country, and is now retired from the field of labor, having accumulated sufficient to keep himself and family comfortably and have something left. Mr. and Mrs. Bobenmoyer are worthy members of the German Reformed Church and useful, respected people : they have never had any children, but have raised two—Charles F. Bell, now a dentist in Arcanum, and Emma J. Harp, who still lives with them.

ASARIAH BRUSS, farmer ; P. O. Arcanum ; son of John and Mary (Sherman) Bruss : John was a native of Pennsylvania ; his father, whose name was also John, came to Preble Co., Ohio, in 1819, the son being then 3 years old, and afterward removed to Marion Co., Ind., where his death occurred. Mary is the daughter of John and Susannah Sherman, natives of Maryland ; the father had sold off his loose property to be in readiness to move West, but sickened and died about the time he had intended to start, and the widow came soon after to Preble Co., Ohio ; Mary was born in Maryland in 1815 ; John Bruss, Jr., and Mary Sherman were married in Preble Co., in 1837 ; they first began domestic life in Preble Co. ; he worked by the day or job as he could, mostly making shingles and roofing barns, for several years ; then farmed a year or two in Preble Co., and in 1850 came to Darke Co., and purchased a farm near Matchetts Corners, where Asariah grew to manhood ; in 1872, they traded for and removed to the farm in Sec. 11, where the widow now resides, his decease having occurred Oct. 26, 1875. Asariah was born in Preble Co., Jan. 18, 1843, grew to manhood here in Butler Township before the era of good schools, good roads, and easy farming ; he was married Jan. 22, 1867, to Miss Mary E., daughter of Joseph Hittle, and they lived with his parents several years, he having charge of his father's farm ; the same year in which his father traded farms, Asariah purchased 33 acres in the same section, and built a small house just across the road from his father's, where they first began





housekeeping by themselves, and are still residing, he here having charge of the old homestead, where his widowed mother now resides. In 1862, Azariah enlisted in the 94th Ohio V. I., and faithfully served his country three years, enduring the hardships and privations, as well as the dangers of the service, willingly, in defense of the flag of our country; he passed unharmed through several severe engagements, was taken prisoner while under Sherman, at Goldsboro, N. C., but was only held seven days, then paroled: the capture of Richmond and surrender of Lee soon followed, and he, with the other remaining brave defenders of their country, was mustered out of service and joyfully returned home, receiving glad and grateful welcome from friends and neighbors. Mr. and Mrs. Bruss have six children.

GEORGE BYERS, Sr. (deceased): the subject of this sketch was a native of Maryland; was married to Susan Hetzler; they came to Darke Co. in 1832, and located in Sec. 36, and are prominently mentioned in connection with the township history; they raised a family of four children, three of whom are living, viz., Catherine E., George H. and Joseph: Catherine is now the wife of Peter Fowble, of Preble Co.; George H. resided with his parents until his marriage with Kezia Fowble, daughter of Peter Fowble, of Preble Co., which occurred March 26, 1863; they first began domestic life at his father's; about two years later he purchased and removed to his present place, but his mother's decease, which occurred March 26, 1872, made it necessary for him to remove to the old homestead; about two years later, Joseph married, and he returned to his own place in Sec. 25, where they now reside. They are both members of the United Brethren Church, and respected members of the community: they have six children—Peter W., Emma C., John H., Theodore, Bertie W. and Clara E.; Joseph was the youngest child: he was married March 11, 1875, to Sarah Ann, daughter of John W. Smith, a resident of Butler Township, and they immediately took charge of the old homestead and the care of his aged father, his brother older removing to his own farm in the adjoining section; after their father's decease, which occurred Sept. 5, 1875, Joseph bought the other shares, and thus retains the old homestead, around which cling the memories of the struggles, toils and achievements of his parents during their forty years' residence, in which the wilderness and swamp which first covered this township were converted, by toil and perseverance, amid unfavorable circumstances, into one of the most fertile portions of the county; in this struggle, Mr. and Mrs. Byers bore their full share, and have handed down their legacies to their children, who, it will be seen by this sketch, are carrying forward the work of improvement and beautifying, and making pleasant and profitable, the legacy of their fathers.

HARRISON COBLENTZ, farmer and Justice of the Peace, Sec. 21; P. O. New Madison; a life resident of Butler Township; was born June 2, 1840; remained at home until after his marriage, Sept. 18, 1860; he was united in marriage with Caroline Hittle; she is the daughter of Nicholas Hittle, an early settler of Butler Township; she is also a life resident of Butler Township; was born Dec. 25, 1843. After his marriage, Mr. Coblentz built a small frame house on his farm, which then consisted of 80 acres, the gift, in part, of his father, and, in the April following, they began the duties of domestic life upon the farm upon which they now reside. In the year 1875, he remodeled and enlarged his house, making a very neat, commodious home; he also added to the original 80 acres, as he had means and opportunity, and now has 334 acres in a good state of cultivation; 229 in the home farm, in Sec. 21, and 105 in Sec. 16. Mr. and Mrs. Coblentz are the parents of four children, viz.: John C., born Oct. 15, 1862; Lizzie, born Dec. 3, 1865; Kate, born April 29, 1871, and Frank L., born Oct. 24, 1873. Mr. Coblentz, though a young man, is already one of the substantial citizens of Butler Township; has been Trustee, and is now Justice of the Peace, and an intelligent, agreeable gentleman. Both he, and his amiable wife, are members of the United Brethren Church, and useful members of society.





GEORGE COBLENTZ, farmer; P. O. El Dorado, Preble Co.; one of the oldest residents of Butler Township now living; was born in Frederick Co., Md., Nov. 26, 1812: when he was a young man, his parents came West and settled in Montgomery Co., Ohio, where he remained until his marriage with Miss Eva Foutz, which was solemnized March 16, 1834; she was the daughter of Frederick Foutz, a native of North Carolina; she was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Dec. 22, 1813; after their marriage, they remained in Montgomery County about two years, then came to Darke County: his father had entered a piece of land in Sec. 21 for him, and they put up a cabin on it and lived there about one year, but, feeling that this was too slow a way to get a start, he bought 55 acres in Sec. 29, upon which there were about 10 acres cleared, a log cabin, and a young orchard started; they removed to this place in February, 1837, and have since resided here, improving and adding to the original 55 acres, until he had about 600 acres, all of which he has divided out among his children; Mr. and Mrs. Coblentz, now quite advanced in years, have seen the forest, once the home of the roving savage, cleared by the woodman's ax, the swamps, foul with decaying vegetable matter, drained and renovated, and all made beautiful by the advance of civilization and the improvements and embellishments they helped to make, creating fertile fields and pleasant homes for themselves and the generations to follow; Mr. Coblentz has been a quiet, industrious citizen: both he and his devoted wife have been worthy members of the U. B. Church for more than forty years; they are kind neighbors and useful members of society; they are the parents of nine children—Catherine, Mary, Ezra, William Henry Harrison, Susanna, Elizabeth, John, Rebecca J. and Eliza E.; Ezra is deceased; the rest are all married, and are substantial citizens of Darke County; John is the youngest son, and has the old homestead, and his parents reside with him; he was married to Mary C. Garrison May 26 1870; she is a daughter of Simeon Garrison, and was born in Butler Co., Ohio, March 5, 1852; they have two children—Charles H. and William R.

GEORGE EMRICK, retired farmer and blacksmith, Sec. 34; P. O. New Castine; was born in Germantown, Montgomery Co., Ohio, Nov. 2, 1818; he learned the blacksmith's trade while a boy and worked at it for a number of years. He was married to Frances Arnold June 16, 1842; they first commenced the duties of domestic life in Montgomery Co., and removed to Darke Co. in 1852, and carried on a shop at Versailles and afterward at Hill Grove, and still later farmed in the vicinity of Hill Grove two or three years, then returned to Montgomery Co. and purchased a farm there upon which they remained until 1863, when he purchased and removed to the farm in Sec. 33, Butler Township, Darke Co., where Samuel Emrick now resides; four years later, he purchased and removed to the farm on Sec. 34, where he now resides; Mr. Emrick now has 159 acres of well improved land, with neat, commodious buildings, suggestive of industry and economy, and is a substantial, respected citizen; both he and his wife are members of the German Baptist Church, and useful members of society. They are the parents of fourteen children, eleven of whom are living, viz., Josiah, Silas, Zachariah, Barbara A., Matilda, Uriah, Benjamin F., Samuel, George W., Solomon and Sarah E. The first seven named are married and all residents of Darke Co. but one, who resides just over the line in Indiana.

SAMUEL EMRICK, retired farmer, Sec. 34; P. O. New Castine; was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Jan. 17, 1818, and lived in Preble Co. during his minority; he is the son of Jacob Emrick. He was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Coonrod Emrick, April 19, 1845; after their marriage, they remained in Preble Co. until August, 1867, when he purchased and they removed to the farm in Sec. 33, Butler Township, where they now reside; the spring following his removal, he was elected Township Treasurer, and has continued to hold that office ever since; he is now a member of the Board of Directors of the County Infirmary; his home consists of 180 acres of well-improved land, with good buildings, and although not an old resident, he is a substantial and respected citizen. Mr. and





Mrs. Emrick are worthy members of the Lutheran Church, of forty years' standing, and useful members of society. They are the parents of eight children, only two of whom are living, viz.: Matilda, now Mrs. Geo. Bidlow, and Ananias, both residents of Butler Township.

PETER FARST, farmer, Sec. 22; P. O. New Castine; an old resident of Darke County: was born in New York Oct. 7, 1818, and came to Ohio when 23 years of age. Was married in Pickaway Co., in 1844, to Matilda Stout: in the year 1850, they removed to Darke Co. and settled on the farm where they now reside, which consists of 200 acres of well-improved land, with good, substantial buildings. Mr. Farst is a quiet, substantial, respected citizen; has raised a family of seven children, viz.: Catharine (now Mrs. Martin Bowman), John, Amos, Susan (now Mrs. Joseph Elliker, of Neave Township), Lavina (now Mrs. Geo. Schleety), Geo. W. a resident of Indiana, and Lida.

BENJAMIN FOUTS, farmer; P. O. and residence El Dorado, Preble Co. A Buckeye by birth, and an early resident of Butler Township; was born in Montgomery Co. May 18, 1813; he is a son of Jacob Fouts, who was a native of North Carolina, and settled in Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1803, entering land upon which he lived all the remainder of his days: his decease occurred in 1864, he being in his 83d year. Benjamin was married Sept. 21, 1834, to Susannah Coblentz, sister to George Coblentz, whose biography appears in this work; soon after their marriage, they came to Darke Co.; settled first in Sec. 14, Butler Township, his father having entered the southwest quarter of that section; here he remained about seven years; afterward lived near New Madison, and later, a short time, in Preble Co.; he removed to the farm in Secs. 32 and 33, which he now owns, in 1848. Mr. Fouts is one of the pioneers of Butler Township; came when Butler was a wilderness, in the days of log-rolling and other social enterprises common to new settlements; he remembers attending rollings twenty-one days in succession one spring; Mr. Fouts has contributed a full share toward the development and improvement of the county, morally as well as physically. Both he and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church. They had six children—Enos, now married, has a family of five children, and resides on and farms his father's place; Wilson B., married, and a resident of German Township; Almira, now Mrs. Philip Coons, of Arcanum; Julia, deceased, was married, and resided in Twin Township, and left a family of four children; Jacob K., was a single man of about 24 years of age at his decease, and Uriah, also deceased. In 1871, Mr. Fouts removed to Dallas, and Mrs. Fouts' decease occurred there, Aug. 15, 1867; he then lived with his married sons, part of the time at Dallas, and part of the time at the farm in Butler Township, until his second marriage, which occurred Dec. 7, 1879, the bride being Sarah Marshall; since his last marriage, he has resided in El Dorado.

JOHN P. FREDRICK, farmer; P. O. Castine; is the son of Peter Fredrick, who came from Germany to America in 1842; there were ten in the family when they crossed the ocean, and it required sixty-three days to make the trip; they landed in New York City in August, and came on West to Montgomery Co., Ohio, coming by water to Columbus, and then by wagon to Dayton, where they arrived after a three-weeks journey; the same season, they came to Darke County and settled in Harrison Township, near the lake; the subject of this sketch remained on the farm with his parents until he had attained his majority; then went to Indiana and worked at the carpenter trade. Was married there Jan. 25, 1852, to Rebecca, daughter of Wm. McFarland, who was an early settler of Butler Township and made the first clearing on the George Coblentz farm; afterward he removed to Randolph Co., Ind.; Rebecca was born in Butler Township, Darke County, March 18, 1833, and was about 3 years old when her parents moved to Indiana; after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Fredrick began housekeeping in Randolph County, he working at the carpenter trade there several years; also dealt in merchandise a short time. In 1861, he enlisted in the 40th O. V. I., and was elected 1st Lieutenant of Co. F; after about eighteen months' service he resigned and





returned home, and in 1863 purchased a farm, and has followed farming ever since. In October, 1870, they removed to Darke County, and he purchased a farm in Sec. 4, where they resided until the spring of 1875, when they removed to their present farm, known as the Aaron De Camp farm, which he had purchased the previous December. Mr. Fredrick is a substantial, respected citizen, a member of the order of F. & A. M., and both he and his amiable wife are respected members of society. They are the parents of five children, two of whom died in infancy, and three are now living—Flora E., now Mrs. C. F. Bell, of Arcanum; George W. and John E., both at home; a little orphan niece, Iva Murray, also lives with them.

**ROBERT GILFILLAN**, farmer and Justice of the Peace, Sec. 25; P. O. Castine, a native of Ireland, and was born on Nov. 12, 1833, and came, when a child, with his parents, to the United States; they settled in Chester Co., Penn., where Robert grew to manhood; he learned the tanner trade, and when 17 years of age struck out to see the world and make a start in life for himself; he first visited Baltimore, then Washington, and while there went to the White House and had the pleasure of shaking hands with President Fillmore; from there he came West, having to stage it from the mountains to the Ohio River, thence by steamer to Cincinnati, from there he came to Dayton, and found he had just \$5 left; he then began to look around to find work, which he soon found in a tannery at West Milton, Miami Co.; afterward came to Ithaca, Darke Co., where he remained a little more than a year; went to Preble Co. in the fall of 1852 and remained until 1859; he cast his first vote in Preble Co., when Know-Nothingism was at its height. He was married March 1, 1859, to Margaret C. Miller, daughter of Jacob F. Miller, a native of Tennessee, and an early resident of Preble Co. They removed to Darke Co. in the April following their marriage; first settled on a tract of land south of Castine, which he had purchased in partnership with Lewis Howell. In 1862, Mr. Gilfillan purchased his partner's interest and became sole owner of the quarter-section; in 1867, he sold that tract and purchased 160 acres in Sec. 25, a part of which is his present homestead; he was elected Justice of the Peace in 1862, which office he held until 1867; he resigned, and in 1870 was again elected, and has held the office ever since. Mr. Gilfillan's life is an illustration of what can be accomplished by industry, integrity and economy. He started from Chester Co., Penn., a lad of 17, without means, and is now a substantial and important citizen. He has a family, three daughters and two sons living, and three daughters are deceased, one of whom, an unusually bright and promising girl, of about 10 years of age, was burned to death in 1874, by the accidental explosion of a can of coal oil.

**JOSEPH W. HAMIEL**, merchant, Castine; a Buckeye by birth, and an old resident of Darke Co.; was born in Montgomery Co., Feb. 15, 1828; when he was about 5 years of age, his father removed to Darke Co. and rented a farm north of Greenville; after about two years' residence, he started on horse back to look up a location for a permanent residence, but never returned, nor was anything learned of him except that a man answering to his description was drowned while attempting to cross the Wabash River in Indiana; this sad event made it necessary for the family to return to Montgomery Co., where the subject of this sketch grew up, being bound to an uncle; the terms made it necessary for his uncle to see that he was educated until competent to cipher in "the rule of three," and the contract was scrupulously adhered to in not educating him beyond that point; in the spring of 1847, he came to Castine; first worked by the month for Mr. — Minich, and afterward became a partner in the lumber business; in 1859, he changed from the lumber to a general merchandising business, and has continued to conduct a general merchandise store here ever since. His marriage with Miss Rachel, daughter of John Bettelon, an early settler of Butler Township, occurred April 3, 1852; they have resided in Castine all their married life; they have six children—John R., Joseph W., Jr., William H., Elmore E. E., James E. and Emma Nettie. John R. is now married, and resides in Castine; Joseph W. is a traveling salesman, with C. W. Darst & Co., wholesale dealers in hats, caps, furs





and umbrellas, at Dayton ; the latter four are still members of the family household.

**WILLIAM B. HARTER**, farmer ; P. O. New Madison ; a descendant of Francis Harter, and a life resident of Darke Co. : is the only child of Silas and Lydia (Michaels) Harter ; Silas was the son of David and brother to Elias Harter, whose biography appears in this work : his decease occurred Dec. 1, 1861. Lydia Michaels is the daughter of John Michaels, an early settler of Butler Township : she is now Mrs. James Clarke, of German Township. The subject of this sketch was born in 1846 ; he grew up on the farm upon which he now resides ; at his father's decease, he took charge of the farm ; afterward rented it, and learned the wagon-maker's trade, but returned to the farm in 1867, and has resided here ever since. His father first had 40 acres, and had increased them to 80, before his death, and had a barn partly built ; the son finished the barn, remodeled the house, and has also made other improvements, besides paying over \$700 pike tax and has lately purchased an additional 40 acres, with buildings. Mr. Harter, though a young man, is already one of the substantial citizens of Butler Township ; is an economical, industrious, useful citizen. He was married to Eliza J. Zimmerman Nov. 29, 1868 ; she is the daughter of Reuben Zimmerman ; her mother was a Brubacker, and is now Mrs. John Jamison, of Greenville. Mrs. Harter is a member of the United Brethren Church, and an intelligent and agreeable woman. They have three children—George A., Elizabeth Iola and Mary Rosetta.

**ELIAS HARTER**, blacksmith ; P. O. New Madison. He is one of the few men who were born here in the early days of Darke Co., that now reside here ; he was born in Butler Township in 1821 ; is the son of David and Sarah (Boone) Harter. David was one of the married sons of Francis Harter, and was among the first settlers of Butler Township. David was a blacksmith, and Elias partially learned the trade, while at home, and after his marriage finished his apprenticeship, and has continued to follow this trade most of his time since. Was a leading and active citizen of New Madison for many years, during which he erected several of the best buildings in town, but the crisis following the close of the war occasioned heavy loss, and he, with others, was bankrupted. When the war was raging and the Government called for more help, he, though above 40, enlisted in the one-hundred-day service, and traveled over a considerable portion of Virginia, where his father and grandfather had lived. The past season he has relaid more plows, perhaps, than any other man in Darke Co., and is still a vigorous, active workman and a respected citizen. He was married in 1844, to Miss Gertrude J., daughter of William Biddle, a native of New Jersey, and an early settler of Butler Township. She was born in New Jersey in 1826, and was 8 years old when her parents came to Darke Co. Mr. and Mrs. Harter are worthy members of the Reformed Church, at New Madison, and useful, respected members of society ; they have raised a large family—five sons and three daughters, viz., George S., John O., William B., Millroy E., Charles S., Sarah K., Allie J. and Gertrude E. George S. volunteered in 1862, when only 16 years of age, and served three years, enduring many hardships and participating in many battles ; was a prisoner in the infamous "Andersonville," and came home from there in December, 1864, looking more like a corpse than a living being, but recovered, and is now the teacher of the Dayton (Ohio) High School ; Sarah K., now the widow of William Hetzler, deceased, is a teacher in the public school at Greenville ; John O., formerly a teacher at the high schools at Ashtabula and Hudson, Ohio, is now retired, on account of his health, and resides in Summit Co. ; Alice J. is now Mrs. David Wheeler, of Greenville ; Gertrude, now a young lady of unusual intelligence and culture, is also a teacher, and all the above-mentioned are members of the Presbyterian Church, thanks to the holy influences of a pious and intelligent mother. William B. is a medical student, while the two younger are schoolboys.

**ELAM HARTER**, farmer ; P. O. New Madison ; a life resident of Darke Co., grandson of the pioneer Francis Harter, and son of Solomon Harter, whose





biography appears in this work : his youth was spent on a farm in Harrison Township ; when 20 years of age, he began to work at the carpenter's trade, and has followed that business ever since, with the exception of about three years of army service ; he worked in the vicinity of Terre Haute, and resided there in 1857 and 1858, part of the time in Indiana and part of the time over the line in Illinois ; in 1859, he returned to Darke Co., built a house on his father's place near New Madison, which house he removed after the war, on to the little tract he then purchased and has since resided on ; in 1862, he with others enlisted a company and went into the United States service, being mustered into the 110th Regiment O. V. I. as Co. H, at Piqua, October 3, and in the same month joined the army in West Virginia, and was actively engaged in field service from that time to the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. We cannot follow them in the long and weary marches, nor mention the almost numberless deeds of endurance and valor in which Mr. Harter always shared, but will mention some of the more noted battles in which he with his regiment took a part—Winchester in 1863, and later the Wilderness, under Grant, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Cedar Creek, and the final siege of Richmond ; during the latter, Capt. Harter was wounded ; he entered the service as Second Sergeant, and, by bravery and persevering endurance, always being with his company, was promoted through the regular order to Captain ; at home he is a Past Grand in the I. O. O. F., and an intelligent, respected citizen. He was married in 1853 to Christina Ray, who is also a life-resident of Darke Co., having been born in Butler Township May 20, 1834, and is an intelligent, sociable lady. They have two children—Junietta, a young lady of unusual intelligence and culture, and a son, Eyevin V.

LYCURGUS HAWES, farmer ; P. O. Castine ; another life resident of Darke Co., is a son of James and Margaret (Robeson) Hawes : James Hawes' parents were pioneers of Kentucky, and were both massacred by the Indians. James, then a babe, and a sister 2 years old, being hid or overlooked by the blood-thirsty red men, were found by some neighboring settlers and cared for. James was brought up by the famous Col. Patterson, who brought him to Montgomery Co., Ohio, when he was about 9 years of age ; he lived on a farm until about 18, then learned the carding and fulling trade, quite a profitable trade in those days ; having formed the acquaintance of Margaret, daughter of John Robeson, while the family resided in Montgomery Co., he used to make a trip occasionally to her father's house, then in the wilderness of Butler Township ; Lycurgus remembers hearing his father tell how, on one occasion, he found the father and his six daughters at work chopping on one log, the father taking the butt end, Margaret, the oldest, next, and so on to the top ; we leave the reader to imagine how slyly Margaret slipped around into the house when she saw her lover's form coming. After their marriage, they settled in the woods, in the north part of Butler Township, in 1831, their cabin having no floor, window nor door, and their first fire being built on the top of a stump inside the cabin, which had to be burned out to allow a floor to be laid ; an older son, John R., now resides on the old homestead. The subject of this sketch was born Sept. 16, 1832, and grew up on the farm while the wilderness was being cleared, and consequently had but little opportunity for book education. He was married, June 21, 1860, to Hannah H. Berger, whose parents were from Pennsylvania, and residents of Montgomery Co. ; they commenced domestic life on his father's homestead ; in 1864, he leased a farm in Twin Township, where they resided three years ; in 1872, he purchased and removed to the farm where they now reside. During his life, now past the meridian, Butler Township has been transformed from a dismal wilderness, with here and there an opening, to a beautiful and fertile district, in which it is a pleasure to travel or reside, and Mr. Hawes has contributed his share toward the improvement. In 1878 he built a fine two-story frame house of modern design, which with the fine barn and other improvements he has made, makes an inviting and pleasant home.





Mr. and Mrs. Hawes are substantial, agreeable people; they have seven children living, four sons and three daughters.

JOHN R. HAWES, farmer; P. O. Arcanum; a Buckeye by birth and an old resident of Darke Co.; is a son of James Hawes, who is mentioned among the pioneers of Butler Township; was born in Montgomery Co. in 1827; his parents removed to Darke Co. and settled in Butler Township in 1829. John grew up during the early years of Butler Township, and, while he received such education as was common in those days, was much more proficient in disentangling the knots from trees and extracting roots from mother earth than in unraveling the knotty questions of books or extracting the square and cube roots; he had acquired a knowledge of the carpenter's trade when 21 years of age, and continued to work at that trade for several years. In 1861, his parents being advanced in years, he took charge of the farm, which he has continued, and now owns, having purchased it after the death of his parents, his father dying in 1862, and his mother in 1866. He has continued to reside on the old homestead ever since. His father entered this land and moved on to it in 1831: it was then a complete wilderness, and Mr. Hawes was poor, but he persevered, and had at his death a very good home. The son, John, has further improved it since it came into his possession. The old log house, now used as a hog-pen, still stands, a reminder of the former days. Mr. Hawes also owns 77 acres of land a little east of his homestead, and adjoining the Twin Township line; this is also under a good state of cultivation. He was married in 1860 to Catherine Eliker, a daughter of Henry Eliker, of Fairfield Co. They have seven children—Fremont, Lafayette, James H., Ida, Emry, Julia A. and Myrtel.

JOHN HEMP, farmer; P. O. New Madison; was born in Frederick Co., Md., Feb. 11, 1816; and came to Montgomery Co., Ohio, with his parents, Henry and Elizabeth Hemp, in the year 1838. His marriage with Elizabeth Brunner was celebrated Nov. 28, 1839; after his marriage, he rented and farmed in Montgomery County about twelve years; then removed to a farm he had previously purchased in the northwestern quarter of Sec. 21, in Butler Township, where they lived until 1876; he built a fine brick house on the farm, in the southeast quarter of Sec. 21, where they now reside; they are the parents of nine children, viz., Ephraim C., Wesley B., Jane, John, Emma, William H., Ellen, Margaret and Rebecca. Ephraim and Jane are deceased; the others are all married, except Rebecca, now a young lady of 17. When the rebellion threatened to destroy our country, Ephraim and Wesley answered to the call of their country, and went forth, risking their lives to defend the honor of our flag. Wesley returned after three years of hardship, having successfully passed through many battles, one of which was fatal to his brother. Ephraim fell in that memorable seven days' terrible fighting in the Wilderness, when Grant forced the rebels back on Richmond, how or just when no one can tell; he was known to enter the bloody strife, but no knowledge of him afterward; it is supposed he was so burned that he was not recognized, and so buried unknown. Mr. Hemp now has 159 acres in the northeastern quarter of Sec. 21, besides the home farm of 80 acres in the southeastern quarter of the same section, upon which is a fine brick dwelling, with a neat front yard, ornamented with a stone-base iron-frame fence—the result of his energy, industry and economy, aided by his devoted wife and family.

JOSEPH HITTLE, farmer; P. O. New Madison; another of the old residents of Darke Co.; is a son of Nicholas Hittle, who was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Schuylkill Co., and removed to Miami Co. soon after the close of the war of 1812, and removed to Darke Co. in 1837, settling in Sec. 3, Butler Township; Joseph was born in Miami Co. Feb. 8, 1823; his mother's name was Eva (Boyer) Hittle; her father and also Nicholas Hittle's father were natives of Germany, and both came to America before the Revolutionary war, and were both sold on their arrival here to pay for their passage, a common practice in those days; just about the time they had completed their term of service, the war began, and Adam Hittle





served during the whole period of the Revolution, but Boyer, being crippled, was exempt from military service. The subject of this sketch lived on the farm with his father until his marriage with Christena Ricker, which occurred Sept. 14, 1843; she is the daughter of Michael and Catherine (Miller) Ricker, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, and are early settlers of Butler Township; they settled in Sec. 9, in 1832; Christena was born in Germany, in 1825; immediately after their marriage they commenced domestic life on a farm in Sec. 10, just across the road from his father's place, which he had previously purchased and has since improved very nicely, and still owns, but now resides on a farm in Sec. 9, where his wife's parents lived, and which he purchased and removed to in 1870; he now has 240 acres of well-improved land, with two sets of good buildings, and is a substantial, respected citizen; he is one of those self-made men, having started with nothing; by hard, persevering labor, amid the difficulties of early life here, he has constantly increased his possessions, and is now independent, and will soon retire from the field of active farming, but it is hoped the community may have the benefit of his presence for many years to come. Mr. and Mrs. Hittle are both worthy members of the Lutheran Church, and respected, useful members of society; they are the parents of nine children, Catherine, born Feb. 27, 1846, (now Mrs. John Johnson); Mary Elizabeth, born Jan. 9, 1848 (now Mrs. Ezra Bruss); George W., born Dec. 4, 1850 (now married and resides on one of his father's farms); Louisa, born Nov. 30, 1852 (now Mrs. James K. Noggle); William J., born Feb. 7, 1856 (now married and a resident of Butler Township); Jacob, born May 5, 1858; Caroline, born Nov. 30, 1860; Fredrick F., born Dec. 10, 1863; Charles B., born July 15, 1866; the latter four are members of the family household.

FREDRICK K. HOLSAPPLE, retired farmer; P. O. Castine; an old resident of Darke Co., was born in Perry Co., Ind., Nov. 14, 1802. Was married to Sarah Morrison Aug. 23, 1827: she is an aunt to Silas Morrison, whose biography appears in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Holsapple removed to Ohio in 1831; settled first in Montgomery Co., near Salem: came to Darke Co. in 1851 and purchased the southwest quarter of Sec. 14, Butler Township, where they have resided ever since. This neighborhood was then a swampy wilderness, with here and there a small "opening," but no road worthy of the name. Mr. and Mrs. Holsapple were, however, true pioneers, and bravely undertook the task of making a home of this then very uninviting looking place, and right well have they succeeded; they now have 160 acres of rich, fertile land, under a good state of cultivation, with two sets of buildings. They are the parents of five children, four of whom are living, viz., George and Elizabeth, both married, and both residents of Illinois; Susan and David, now married, who resides on and has charge of his father's farm.

GEORGE T. HORINE, farmer; P. O. Castine; one of the old residents of Butler Township; his father, Jacob Horine, came to Darke Co. from Maryland, in 1836, and settled in Sec. 27, Butler Township; he is a descendant of Adam Horine, who came from Germany to the New World in the colonial days, and was the first white person to cross the mountains with his family, into the Middletown Valley, in Maryland; he purchased land there, at that time, of King George, for 3 cents per acre; he was the father of Tobias Horine, who was the father of Jacob Horine, the father of George Horine. The subject of this sketch remained with his parents until 23 years of age, receiving but little education. His marriage with Miss Eliza Stout was solemnized March 6, 1853; she is a daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Meckley) Stout, natives of Lehigh Co., Penn.; Eliza was born in Pickaway Co., Ohio, Jan. 29, 1836. After his marriage, Mr. Horine farmed his father's place for several years; in 1866, he purchased the farm upon which they now reside; during the thirteen years that have followed, very material improvements have been made; the farm now consists of 220 acres, in Sec. 28, with a neat, commodious brick building, and other improvements to correspond, which makes a very desirable home. Mr. Horine is a substantial, respected citizen; is a member of the Board of Trustees of the United Brethren Church; both he and his estimable wife are worthy members

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of the church, and useful members of society; they are the parents of five sons, viz.: Jacob W., born Dec. 30, 1853; Franklin E. born Jan. 27, 1859, died Feb. 26, 1859; Joseph N., born Dec. 18, 1859; William C., born April 11, 1864, and John W., born July 29, 1867; the last three are attending school; Jacob W. is married and resides on his father's farm.

**ADAM HORINE**, farmer; P. O. Castine. The subject of this sketch is the youngest son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Dutro) Horine, who came to Darke Co. in 1836, and settled on the farm upon which Adam now resides; they were among the earliest settlers of Butler Township, which was then, with the exception of here and there an "opening," a howling wilderness, and a large part of it an almost impenetrable swamp. To clear away the forest and drain and renovate the swamps, required an amount of energy, labor and endurance which the present generation may well be thankful has not been required of them. In the toils and privations of the early settlers, Jacob Horine and his excellent wife partook, doing their full share. They are worthy members of the United Brethren Church, and helped erect the first church building in Butler Township, thus contributing to the moral as well as physical development of the township. Future generations will never be able to fully appreciate the blessings coming to them through the influence of such characters among the early pioneers, but the present generation may pay their tribute of gratitude by handing down a history of the noble deeds and sacrifices of their ancestors. The farm upon which Adam now lives presents a picture in great contrast to the farm as it was when his parents first came to it. Then there was a small cabin, and about 25 acres chopped off—18 or 20 of which were partly cleared—and a small orchard started; the balance was dense forest and swamp, foul with miasma, causing sickness and death. Now there is a neat, substantial and commodious brick house, a large barn and other buildings for storage, etc., a fine orchard, and, in place of the forest and swamp, are fields pregnant with vegetation, and not excelled in Darke Co. for power of production. Adam was born in 1842, and has always lived on this same farm. Was married to Mary E. Hemp Feb. 21, 1867; she is the daughter of John Hemp, whose biography appears in the Butler Township list; in August following their marriage, he took charge of the old homestead; the parents, however, keeping house separately, in part of the house; in 1870, his father died; his mother still keeps house, occupying a part of the old home; she is now in the 73d year of her age; her mind and health remarkably well preserved. Adam was one of those brave and patriotic men, who answered to the call of their country. He enlisted in 1862, and became a Corporal of Co. H, 110th O. V. I., in which he served until the close of the war; during this time he took part in fourteen separate engagements, among which were the notable Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Wilderness and Cedar Creek, which made Sheridan famous. Mr. and Mrs. Horine are both worthy members of the United Brethren Church, and useful members of society; they have three children—Irvin O., Lola M. and Cora E.

**SAMUEL HORINE**, farmer; P. O. New Madison. Is another of that pioneer family of Jacob and Elizabeth Horine; was born in the Middletown Valley, Md., Oct. 24, 1832, and was about 4 years of age when his parents came West; he grew to manhood here in Butler Township before the days of good schools and graveled roads, and necessarily became experimentally acquainted with many of the hardships and privations of the early settlers. He was married June 19, 1859, to Sarah A. Detro, daughter of Elias Detro, an early resident of Darke Co.; she was born in the Middletown Valley, Md., April 26, 1840, and came with her parents to Darke Co., in the latter part of the same year; after their marriage, they first lived near what is now Rossville; in the year 1867, he purchased, and they removed to, the farm where they now reside, where he has built a fine, commodious house and otherwise improved the place; he now has 80 acres of fine land in a good state of cultivation, the last tax valuation being \$5,000. Mr. and





Mrs. Horine are both worthy members of the U. B. Church, and respected, substantial people; they are the parents of six children, all sons, three of whom are living.

**LEWIS HOWELL**, farmer; P. O. Castine; is an old resident of Butler Township; was born in Middlesex Co., N. J., April 4, 1827; when he was 4 years of age, his parents removed to Washington Co., Ohio, and in 1840 they removed to Preble Co., where the subject of this sketch resided until 1859. He was married March 7, 1850 to Abigail Miller; she is a daughter of Jacob F. and Dicey (Weaver Price) Miller; Jacob F. was a native of Virginia; Abigail was born in Preble Co., Ohio, in 1830; Mr. and Mrs. Howell began domestic life in Preble Co.; in 1859 Mr. Howell and Mr. Gilfillan, whose biography appears in this work, purchased the farm in the southeast quarter of Butler Township, known as the McGriff place, and they removed there and remained about four years, when Mr. Howell disposed of his interest in that tract to Mr. Gilfillan and purchased and removed to the farm in Sec. 22, where they now reside; in the twenty-one years past, they have seen and aided in making many improvements, both in the social and physical condition of Butler Township; they now have 80 acres of land in Sec. 3, in a good state of cultivation, with good buildings, besides the home farm, which consists of 103 acres in a good state of cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Howell are respected members of society and substantial citizens and agreeable people; they have seven children—Milton, Oliver, Lurenna E., Robert, Leroy, Theodore and Oscar; all are at home except Milton, who is married, and resides near Gettysburg, and Lurenna E., now Mrs. George Trump, whose biography appears in this work.

**WILLIAM JOHNSON**, farmer; P. O. New Madison; a "Buckeye" by birth, and a 12-year resident of Darke County, was born in Butler County in 1816, and lived there till 1867, when he came to Darke County, purchased and settled on the farm in Sec. 4, where he now resides; he was brought up a farmer, but worked about three years during his youth in a flouring-mill, and had but little opportunity for education. Was married to Sarah Littlejohn Dec. 22, 1844; she is the daughter of William and Hannah Littlejohn, and was born in Clark County, Ohio, Dec. 17, 1826; they first began life on a farm in Union Township, Butler Co., he was a renter, and, after raising one crop, hired in a flour-mill, where he remained about three years; after this he resumed farming, renting from year to year, until the spring of 1867; having saved a little means, he came to Darke County, where land was comparatively very cheap, and purchased the southwest quarter of Sec. 4, upon which there were a pretty good brick house and other buildings, which have been sufficient for his purposes and enabled him to apply his proceeds to the land payments; he now has 160 acres, less the church lot, on the southwest corner of his place, in a good state of cultivation; thus it will be seen that Mr. Johnson is another of those men who began without means, and by persevering labor and wise management accumulated sufficient to keep him in his declining years, and have something left for the coming generation; he has been a quiet, industrious citizen, not seeking public notoriety, but has quietly supported that which seemed right; subscribing to no creed, he has always acted honestly according to the dictates of his conscience. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of eleven children, four of whom died in youth, and seven are still living—John and David both married; the former resides on his father's place, the latter is a resident of Butler County; Harriet M., Sarah N., Alice, Othilla and Elvira; the latter four are members of the present household.

**JOHN KARN**, retired farmer; P. O. Arcanum; is a native of Ohio, and an old resident of Darke Co., and is the son of Henry and Susan (Good) Karn; Henry was a native of Pennsylvania, and came to Ohio when a youth; Susan was a native of Virginia. They were married in Butler Co., Ohio, and resided there several years; they then came to Butler Township, Darke Co., in 1852, bringing a number of families with them, all of whom were connected, and among whom was the subject of this sketch; they all settled in the neighborhood of where John





now lives, which is known as "Beach Grove;" John bought and removed to the place upon which he now lives in 1853; it then contained 80 acres, about 50 of which were under cultivation, and there was a small log house on it: now Mr. Karn has 240 acres, less the school, church and cemetery lots, which are off one corner, nearly all under improved cultivation, with three good houses and two barns, and he is now preparing to build the fourth house, which will be a neat and commodious frame, designed for his residence; Mr. Karn brought with him the religious principles which were implanted in his youth, and has been a leading man in sustaining organized Christianity in his neighborhood; Rev. Voght, who was the first Pastor of Timothy's Reformed Church, was his brother-in-law, and, indeed, Henry Karn and his sons and sons-in-law, constituted the church in the beginning. Mr. Karn has not only been a useful man in the church but also in the community, and, while he and his wife are esteemed members of the church, they are greatly respected by the community. He was married to Susan Bobenmoyer in 1846; she is the daughter of Fredrick and Christena Ann Bobenmoyer, and sister to Charles Bobenmoyer, whose biography appears in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Karn are the parents of one child, William Henry, now married and residing with them; they also raised Mary J., the youngest daughter of Titus and Sarah (Bobenmoyer) Shuler: the latter is now Mrs. E. A. Clarke.

J. P. LOVE, retired merchant and doctor, Castine; a native of Virginia, an early settler of Butler Township, and one of the oldest early residents now living; was born Aug. 20, 1803; his parents designed educating him for the practice of medicine, but, after taking a regular course of instruction, he became satisfied he did not want to follow the profession, and consequently did not take degrees, but, after he came to the new settlement of Castine, his knowledge of medicine became known, and he was compelled, much against his taste and desire, to practice; he came to Castine in the spring of 1833, and opened a store, keeping a general stock of merchandise, which he continued until 1838; from 1838 to 1841, he devoted his entire attention to the practice of medicine; from 1841 to 1851, he was again engaged in merchandising; from 1851 to 1855, he lived a retired life, doing some medical and some legal business for his former customers, which he could not well put off; from 1855 to 1857, he again engaged in merchandising; since 1857, he has not engaged in any regular business, except to look after his property, which consists of notes, etc., and valuable real estate property in Michigan. The Doctor is one of those enigmas who never married; has always had a great fondness for books, and has spent much time and not a little money acquiring knowledge, in its broad sense; has been acquainted with nearly all the prominent men of Darke County, and quite intimate with many of them; he is still a student for the sake of knowledge, and a very kind-hearted man. R. M. Pomeroy, who was a prominent boot and shoe dealer of Cincinnati and Boston, and later, President of the Central Branch of the Union Pacific R. R., commenced his successful career in a building which he rented of Dr. Love, the Doctor boarding with his family, and assisting him both with advice and use of means; a firm friendship has always existed between them. The Doctor is widely read, and has a remarkably retentive mind; he can give the name and history of nearly every man who entered land in the neighborhood of Castine.

DAVID R. MCCLURE, farmer; P. O. El Dorado, Ohio; an old resident of Darke Co.; was born in Rockbridge Co., Va., Dec. 7, 1827; he became an orphan at the age of 9, by reason of the decease of his father, his mother having died when he was quite young; when he was about 11 years of age, he came to Fairfield Co., Ohio, with W. K. McCabe, who was a brother-in-law. Mr. McCabe came to Darke Co. in 1844, and David accompanied him, and continued to make their house his home until his marriage with Miss Martha, daughter of Thomas Kyle, whose biography appears in the Harrison Township list; their marriage was celebrated Nov. 2, 1854, and they immediately began the duties of domestic life where they now reside and have resided ever since, he having purchased 90 acres





of his present homestead previous to his marriage; he then had a small but comfortable frame house and about 30 acres cleared; he now has 170 acres, 120 of which are under cultivation; in 1875, he built a fine frame residence, and had just moved into it when the old house took fire and was burned. Mr. McClure has been a quiet, industrious man, an active Republican and a useful citizen; was Lieutenant of Co. B. 156th Regiment O. N. G.; in his youth, he was an associate and schoolmate of Judge David Meeker and Hon. Wm. Allen. Mr. and Mrs. McClure are highly respected and useful members of society; they have had nine children, seven are living—Ann Eliza, born Jan. 7, 1856 (now Mrs. Henry Brown of Preble Co.); Cora B., born Feb. 24, 1858 (now Mrs. Joseph Coppock, a resident of Butler Township; Luella M., born Feb. 16, 1861; William A., Oct. 24, 1863; Frank E., Nov. 23, 1869; Theodore A., Oct. 31, 1871, and Ambrose B., Sept. 7, 1876. The names of the deceased are Mary Alice, born April 24, 1866, died March 14, 1871; an infant son, who was born March 22 and died March 24, 1869.

WM. McGRUFF, farmer, Sec. 14; P. O. Castine; a son of John McGruff who was one of the pioneers of Butler Township. William was born in Butler Township in 1814, and grew to manhood during the pioneer days of Darke Co. before he became of age, he bought his time in order to go to school, and, although he had received almost no education during his youth, he soon became sufficiently learned to pass the necessary examination in "reading, writing and arithmetic," and began teaching, first in summer, and attending school in winter, then taught winters and farmed in summer; this he continued several years, but when he had accumulated enough to get a good start at farming he turned his attention to that altogether, and has been quite successful. He was married in 1839 to Mary, daughter of Phillip Shank, a pioneer of Twin Township; after their marriage they began domestic life in Twin Township after the usual primitive style, with scarcely any furniture or cooking utensils; the first fall he killed one hog, which he had fattened, partly with corn and partly with acorns he had gathered for that purpose. It would seem impossible for a young couple to start in this way now, and, indeed, they would be the laughing stock of the community; yet most young couples, in those days started with similar outfits, and many of them, like Mr. McGruff, became the substantial citizens of the county. He became a citizen of Butler Township about 1846, having at that time purchased a tract, partly in Twin and partly in Butler, the building being in Butler; he has since erected a commodious brick house on the same tract in Twin Township, where he now resides; he now has three 80-acre tracts and one 20-acre tract in Butler Township and three 80-acre tracts in Twin Township, most of which he has cleared, and all of which he has improved very materially. Thus it will be seen he has been an important factor in the improvement of both Butler and Twin Townships; he has been an industrious, enterprising, energetic farmer and a good citizen. His wife, who belonged to one of the early and respected families of Twin Township, was a devoted wife, a kind mother and an intelligent, useful woman; her decease, which occurred Jan. 25, 1879, was a severe affliction, and all the more so on account of there never having been any serious sickness in his family previously, they having raised a family of five sons and two daughters without a single death, and all but the two youngest sons, who are at home, are married and respected citizens of Darke County.

SAMUEL B. MINNICH, merchant, P. O. and residence, Castine; one of the firm of Minnich & Hamiel, dealers in general merchandise, Castine. This is the most important business firm of Butler Township. The subject of this sketch is a native of Pennsylvania, and an old resident of Darke Co.; was born Dec. 10, 1824; when about 7 years of age, he came with his parents to Montgomery Co., Ohio, where he remained till 1847, when he came to Castine and engaged in the lumber business; operated a saw-mill here twelve years. In 1859, he engaged in merchandising in connection with Mr. Hamiel, who had become a partner in the lumber business in 1850 and they have continued to do business together for thirty





years : during this time, they have done a large business in the aggregate, and altogether quite successful. Mr. Minnich received only such education as the common schools of Montgomery Co. afforded during his youth ; lived on a farm until 19 years of age, then learned the trade of millwright, and worked at that until he came to Castine and engaged in the saw-mill and lumber trade : he started the first merchant mill in Castine, and during the twelve years following the firm distributed many thousands of dollars among the farmers in this vicinity in exchange for their timber, which stimulated improvements and furnished the means. Mr. Minnich's marriage with Terressa Sinclair was celebrated in Castine Dec. 14, 1850 ; she is the daughter of John Sinclair, an early settler of Butler Township ; her decease occurred Jan. 3, 1860 ; she had two sons—Joseph W., now a teacher, and John W., now a traveling salesman with Anderson & Maxton, boot and shoe dealers. Mr. Minnich's marriage with Miss Evaline, daughter of Thomas Law, a resident of Butler Township, was celebrated Feb. 9, 1862. Mr. Minnich has been Postmaster at Castine continuously since 1861.

SILAS MORRISON, farmer ; P. O. Arcanum ; a Buckeye by birth, and an old resident of Darke Co. ; he is the son of Nathaniel Morrison, who was a native of Virginia and came to Montgomery Co., Ohio, at an early day ; from there he came to Darke Co. in 1841, and settled on the farm where Silas now resides ; Nathaniel died in 1848. The subject of this sketch was born in Montgomery Co. in 1838, and grew to manhood here, when Butler Township was quite new, and much of the clearing was done during his boyhood, and early manhood days ; also all the improvements for which Darke Co. is noted, and of which Butler Township has her full share, have been completed since his majority. In the fall of 1862, Mr. Morrison enlisted in the 110th O. V. L., and, although wounded and permanently disabled in the battle of Winchester in 1863, where he was taken prisoner, and recaptured by the United States forces seven weeks later, he served until after the close of the war. Mr. Morrison began teaching during the winter, when 17 years of age, and continued it for several years before and two years after the war : after his marriage, he lived a short time at Ithaca, Twin Township, then removed to his father's homestead, in Sec. 14, Butler Township, and afterward purchased 80 of the 200 acres which then constituted the homestead, with the buildings, which are substantial and commodious ; he has now become one of the old, substantial citizens ; is the present Township Clerk. His marriage with Nancy Ford, was celebrated Sept. 2, 1866 ; she is the daughter of Rev. Mordecai Ford, who was an early settler of Darke Co. Nancy was born in Van Buren Township, July 12, 1838, and is the mother of two children—Jacob W. and Frank M.

JULIA ROSE ; P. O. Arcanum. Widow of the late Samuel D. Rose, and a sister to Charles and Benjamin Bobenmoyer, whose biographies appear in this work ; she was born in Pennsylvania in 1815, and was about 17 years of age when her parents came to Ohio and settled in Butler Co. She was married in Butler Co. in 1834, to Michael Dubbs ; he was also a native of Pennsylvania, and was born in 1809 ; he died in Butler Co. in 1845 ; four children were the fruits of this union—Henry, born Aug. 10, 1835, now a resident of Preble Co. ; Mary Ann, born Dec. 25, 1837, now Mrs. Amandus Shuler, of Kansas ; David F., born May 12, 1841, now a resident of Butler Township ; Julia Ann, born Jan. 29, 1846, now Mrs. William Heidleberger, of Hamilton, Ohio. Her second marriage was with Samuel D. Rose, and occurred in Butler Co. in 1848 ; he was also a native of Pennsylvania ; was born in 1805 ; in 1857, they came to Darke Co. and settled on the farm in Sec. 12, Butler Township, where the widow now resides : Mr. Rose was an active, enterprising citizen, possessed considerable business talent, and was engaged during most of his residence here in clerking, or trading on his own responsibility, at the same time taking general superintendence of his farm ; his decease occurred Jan. 12, 1869 ; as a result of this second marriage, Mrs. Rose became the mother of six children—Samuel T., born March 15, 1849, now a resident of Neave Township ; Cecelia, born May 2, 1851, died Nov. 6, 1852 ; Emily J., born April 25, 1854,





now Mrs. George Foreman, of Monroe Township; Winfield S., born May 8, 1856, now married and resides with his mother and has charge of the farm; Josephine, born May 13, 1858, now Mrs. Oscar Moist, of Butler Township; Emma Medora, born June 25, 1862, now a young lady.

**CHRISTIAN SCHLECHTY**, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. New Madison; a life resident of Darke Co.; is the grandson of Christian Schlechty, who came from Switzerland to America before the Revolution, and was a boy at the time the war was going on, and who lived near enough to hear the guns of the battle of Brandywine; is the son of Christian Schlechty, who came to Darke Co. and entered land near Fort Jefferson as early as 1817, and about three years later was married to Susan Noggle, a sister to Michael Noggle, whose biography appears in this work. They lived on this land, near Jefferson, until their decease, which occurred, his in 1860, being in his 65th year, and hers in 1875, she being in her 75th year. The subject of this sketch was born in Neave Township July 18, 1821; remained with his parents during his minority, and continued to have his home there until his marriage with Alamanda Morrice, which occurred in New Madison Nov. 22, 1844. She was a native of Virginia, and was partially reared by an uncle of Mr. Schlechty's; they began domestic life on the place where they now reside; he then rented the farm of his father, and about three years later bought it; the farm then consisted of 80 acres, almost entirely woods. Mr. Schlechty has cleared, ditched and added to it until he now owns 180 acres, 130 of which is under cultivation; he has also built quite extensive barns for the storage of grain and accommodation of his stock, and a good house, which he now occupies for his residence. Mr. Schlechty, while farming quite largely, makes a business of raising fine stock, of which he shows some excellent specimens of thoroughbreds; he is a reliable Democrat in politics, and a quiet, substantial citizen. Mr. and Mrs. Schlechty are the parents of six children—Susan, now Mrs. Napoleon Garland, and George, both of whom are residents of Butler Township; Melissa J., now Mrs. Sebastian Veitor, of Neave Township; Franklin P., a young man, and Ellen and Laura, children.

**A. I. SHULER**, farmer and stock-raiser, also manufactures carriages, buggies and sleighs; P. O. Arcanum. Mr. Shuler was born in Pennsylvania in 1846, received a good common-school education, also attended one term at the High School of Middletown, Penn., and afterward took a course at the Commercial College at Hamilton, Ohio, clerking for different merchants in the mean time; was married to Miss Maggie, daughter of John Bobenmoyer, in 1872, being at that time interested in a carriage manufactory at Boyerstown, Penn.; they went there, but soon after he sold his interest and returned to Butler Co., where her parents lived; in 1874, they removed to her father's farm, in Sec. 1, Butler Township, and have resided here since; he having charge of the farm and is also manufacturing buggies, carriages, sleighs, etc.; having a shop on his farm, his expenses are low and enables him to put up first-class work at a very low price; always keeps a stock on hand, which he sells on easy terms and gives a warrant. Mr. S., although a young man, is already regarded as one of the substantial residents of Butler Township; is a member of the German Reformed Church, and both he and his wife are intelligent, respected members of society; they have three children—William A., Charles O. and Winford B.

**TITUS SHULER**, retired farmer; P. O. Arcanum; a native of Pennsylvania and an old resident of Darke County; was born in Lehigh County, Penn., in 1819 and lived there until 23 years of age; came to Butler County, Ohio, in 1842. Was married to Sarah Bobenmoyer in 1842; she belonged to the Bobenmoyer family whose biographies appear in the Butler Township list; her decease occurred in 1854; she left four children—Amandus, now married and a resident of Union City; Lucy, now Mrs. David Baker; Samuel, now married, resides with his father and has charge of the farm; Mary J., whom Mr. and Mrs. John Karn raised, is now Mrs. E. A. Clarke. In 1855, Mr. Shuler was married to Deborah Bridenstine, of



Butler County ; immediately after their marriage, they came to Darke County and settled in Butler Township, on the farm in Sec. 12, where they now reside. Mr. Shuler came before the era of gravel roads and underground ditches, and has done his share toward these improvements, for which Butler Township is justly celebrated ; he was once elected Justice, but declined the honor ; he has been a quiet, useful citizen ; both he and his wife are worthy members of the Reformed Church and respected members of the community ; they are the parents of two children—Wilson, now a resident of Decatur County, Kan. ; and Franklin, a youth of 15.

HENRY SHUMAKER, retired farmer ; P. O. Castine ; a native of Maryland and an old resident of Darke Co. ; was born in 1815 and grew up as a farmer boy ; came to Ohio in 1845 ; lived near Germantown one year, then came to Darke Co. and lived about two years in the Yankeetown settlement ; settled on his present place in 1848. As we look over the cultivated and fertile fields on this farm now, it does not seem possible ; but nevertheless, when he came here there were but five acres cleared and a small cabin built : all else was wilderness and swamp. It seems wonderful that a single generation, yet living, should have accomplished so much, but the evidences of the facts are before our eyes in the shape of fields rich with green verdure, promising an abundant harvest ; long lines of ditches, with their numerous underground branches reaching in every direction, tell of the labor by which this very desirable state of things has been brought about. Mr. Shumaker is a self-made man, having began life for himself in 1839, with nothing but his energy and strength to rely upon, and has successfully battled with the difficulties of pioneer life, and in making himself, has done his full share toward making Butler Township, as it is to-day, one of the most productive portions of Darke Co. Mr. Shumaker now owns 160 acres, 80 in Sec. 23 and 80 adjoining in Sec. 24, which is farmed by two of his sons jointly, he having retired several years since. He was married in 1839 to Lydia Detrow : she is a sister to Mrs. Horine, the mother of the Horine brothers, whose biographies appear in the Butler Township list, and is an intelligent, kind-hearted woman. The fruits of this union were eleven children, seven of whom grew to maturity, five are married, two are single and reside with their parents.

DANIEL SPITLER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 33 ; P. O. El Dorado, Preble Co. ; he is a native of Pennsylvania : was born in Adams Co. June 14, 1815 : is the son of Jacob Spitler, who came to Montgomery Co. when Daniel was a little boy. Daniel was married to Hester Barst in 1838, and they commenced the duties of domestic life in Preble Co., near her home, where they remained till 1873 : he purchased and removed to the farm in Sec. 33, where he now resides : Mrs. Spitler's decease occurred Nov. 4, 1876 : they were the parents of ten children, six of whom are living, viz., Margaret (now Mrs. Moses Brackett, of Union City, Ind.) ; John (now a resident of Preble Co. ; Mary E. (now Mrs. Jessie Foreman, of Arcanum) ; Daniel F., William and Clarence : the latter three are still at home. Mr. Spitler was married the second time, March 28, 1878, to Susannah Shaffer, daughter of Jacob Shaffer, of Preble Co. ; she has borne him one child—Charles C. ; Mr. Spitler is now past the meridian of life, and has been an industrious, useful citizen ; he commenced in Preble Co., in 1838, a renter ; he has gradually advanced until he purchased the farm he first rented, and afterward sold it and purchased the place he now resides upon, which consists of 50 acres in Sec. 32, and 140 acres in Sec. 33, upon which is a neat, commodious frame house and other improvements to correspond, all of which is the result of his energy, economy and wisdom.

GEORGE TRUMP, farmer ; P. O. Arcanum : a life resident of Darke County : is the son of John Trump, who was a son of Frederick Trump ; Frederick's father, Casper Trump, was a native of Germany, and emigrated to America and settled in Maryland at an early day : Frederick was born in Maryland, and came to Darke County at an early day and settled near Castine : John was born in Maryland, and married there ; afterward lived in Pennsylvania, and from there to Montgomery





Co., Ohio, and removed to Darke County about the year 1840: lived about one year near Castine, then removed to Twin Township. The subject of this sketch was born in Twin Township Oct. 27, 1847; was brought up on a farm, and received the benefit of a regular attendance at the district school during his youth, and three terms at the Normal School, at Lebanon; was married to Lurena Howell June 29, 1876, and together they celebrated the 100th anniversary of American independence by visiting the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia; they also visited his father's birthplace. Mr. Trump began teaching in 1869, and has taught most of the winters since; his wife was a pupil under him; after their marriage, he taught school the first winter, and they kept house in an old log cabin, a relic of pioneer days, which was the only house then vacant near the schoolhouse; in the following spring, he rented her father's farm, in Sec. 3, Butler Township, where they now reside: they first kept house, or rather "stayed" in a shop and wash-house of their neighbor, Charles Bobenmoyer, during the spring and summer, while the present neat and commodious house was building. Mr. Trump is a young man, intelligent, energetic and industrious, and has already made a start which proves his ability to become, if life and health are spared, one of the substantial citizens; he is a member of the Lutheran Church, and both he and his wife are respected members of society; they are the parents of two children—Carrie A. (deceased) and Lewis O.

BAKER VALENTINE, retired farmer; P. O. Arcanum. A "Buckeye" by birth; was born in Butler Co. and grew up in Warren Co.; after he was grown, he went to Cincinnati, and, being disappointed in finding employment, made an engagement to boat on the Ohio River; after about one year's river experience, he engaged with his brother Aaron, who then had a grocery in Cincinnati, and remained in that city about nine years; in 1834, he came to Darke Co. and entered five 80-acre tracts a little north of Arcanum, and commenced clearing, built a cabin, and in the year following, having got the cage ready, was married to Miss Matilda, daughter of Clarke Baker, a native of Warren Co., and an early settler of Twin Township, Darke Co. After his marriage, he concluded his neighbors were too scarce and far between, and sold in part and traded for a quarter of Sec. 13, Butler Township; afterward bought 80 acres of the southeast quarter of Sec. 12, upon which his present residence is located; Mr. Valentine is emphatically a self-made man, being thrown out upon the world when so young that he has no recollection of his parents; he had to depend upon the kindness of friends until he was old enough to earn a living, which he commenced doing while a youth; he started out for Cincinnati before he was of age, and has battled his way until he has become one of the substantial citizens of Darke Co. and a leading man of his neighborhood, and is now living a retired life, enjoying, in his later years, the fruits of the sacrifices and toils of his earlier years; both he and his wife are now quite advanced in years, being the oldest couple of early settlers now living in their neighborhood, but are still in full possession of all their faculties, and remarkably vigorous and active; they have three children living, all of whom are married and reside near them.

## FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP.

ANSON ALDRICH, farmer; P. O. Laura, Miami Co. To the subject of this sketch we are pleased to accord a place in the front ranks of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; he was born in Rhode Island Oct. 16, 1820, and is a son of Varnum and Martha Aldrich, natives of the same place, who settled in this township in 1834, and were among the first settlers in the township, locating on land in Sec. 33, where they have resided continuously for forty-seven years. They are the parents of eight children, of whom five are living, viz.: Anson, Robert, Betsy, Waldo and Orin.





the deceased are Amanda, Sarah and Lydia. Our subject's early days were spent on the farm, and he has had his full share of hardships and privations to undergo; he informs us he has cleared up over 400 acres of heavily-timbered land; he stayed at home till he was 30 years of age, and then settled, in 1850, on the place where he now resides; he owned 80 acres at the time, and has since added by purchase, till his present farm contains 158 acres of highly cultivated land, and his improvements are No. 1 in every particular. He was united in marriage with Miss Clara Brown, daughter of Daniel Brown, Nov. 7, 1850; three children were given to this union, viz.: Lucy, born May 29, 1853, and departed this life Aug. 14, 1856; Erwin, born Dec. 20, 1851, and died Aug. 22, 1871; Martha E., born Nov. 27, 1855, *nee* Mrs. Dr. Brandon, who resides in Laura. Mrs. Aldrich departed this life Sept. 28, 1873: she was a member of the M. E. Church, and died as she had lived, trusting in the promises of the Savior. Mr. Aldrich was again united in marriage with Mary B. (Morrison) Dorwin, daughter of A. and Nancy Morrison, June 10, 1875; her parents are natives of Franklin Co., Penn., and were among the early pioneers of Ohio: her father departed this life in 1840: her mother is still living, and resides in Piqua; they were the parents of six children, all living, viz., Jane, John, Nancy, Belle, Robert, and Margaret. Mrs. Aldrich had two children by her former marriage with Mr. Dorwin, viz.: Cora, now Mrs. G. W. Horner, and resides in Olney, Ill.; Jennie, who resides with her mother: Mrs. A. has been a member of the Presbyterian Church for twenty years, and is a consistent Christian woman.

**SAMUEL BILLHIMER**, farmer; P. O. Painter Creek. The subject of this memoir was born in Augusta Co., Va., Jan. 8, 1824, and is a son of Jacob and Susannah (Erbaugh) Billhimer, natives of the same place; they removed to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1835: Mr. Billhimer, Sr., was born Jan. 22, 1781, and departed this life April 9, 1840; Mrs. Billhimer was born April 12, 1789, and died Jan. 7, 1870: they were the parents of twelve children, of whom only two are living, viz., Solomon and our subject; the rest all lived to manhood and womanhood, then quietly passed away. Our subject was reared on the farm and assisted his father in the duties of the same till his decease, and he then labored for his widowed mother's support till his 19th year, when he began life for himself and worked for his brother, doing carpenter work by the month for one year; he then followed various pursuits, anything and everything that was honorable, to gain a livelihood. His marriage with Esther Miller was celebrated Sept. 13, 1846. Her father, Henry Miller, was killed by accident when yet a young man. Mr. and Mrs. Billhimer are the parents of ten children, of whom eight are living, viz., George M., John, Levi, Susannah, Mary C., Esther, Henrietta and Rachael; the deceased are Alta E. and Samuel. Mr. Billhimer is one of our self-made men, as he began life without capital, but energy and good management, combined with the assistance rendered by his amiable wife, have made them a good home in which to enjoy their remaining years; he owns 60 acres of land, which is all in a good state of cultivation and well improved. They have been members of the German Baptist Church for thirty years, and are every-day Christian people, and take a lively interest in the church.

**MOSES COATE**, farmer; P. O. Red River. To the subject of this memoir we are pleased to accord a place in the front ranks of the early pioneers: he was born in Miami County the 9th day of the twelfth month, 1815; his father, Moses Coate, was born in South Carolina in the fifth month, 1767; his mother, Elizabeth Coate, was born in South Carolina the 9th day of the eleventh month, 1776; they were the parents of twelve children, viz.: Jane, born the 19th day of the seventh month, 1795; Mary, born the 15th day of the eleventh month, 1797; Thomas, born the 7th day of the fifth month, 1799; Esther, born the 1st day of the second month, 1801; Joseph, born the 22d day of the tenth month, 1802; William, born the 6th day of the fifth month, 1805; Margaret, born the 16th day of the fourth month, 1807; Samuel, born the 29th day of the twelfth month, 1808; Benjamin,





born the 23d day of the ninth month, 1810; Elizabeth, born the 10th day of the ninth month, 1812; Moses, born the 9th day of the twelfth month, 1815; Jesse, born the 1st day of the third month, 1818. Our subject was reared on the farm and assisted his father in agricultural pursuits till his 23d year, when he began life for himself and was united in marriage with Elizabeth Brown in 1839. Her parents were natives of South Carolina, and emigrated to Darke Co. in 1822, and settled on Ludlow Creek, in Monroe Township. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom only six are now living. Mr. Brown was born in 1797, and died at the age of 82 years; Mrs. Brown was born in 1800, and departed this life at the age of 66 years. In 1844, our subject settled in Darke Co., in Adams Township, where he remained for three years, and then removed to the place where he now resides, in 1848. Just after his marriage, they removed to the vicinity of Terre Haute, Ind., where they remained over three years, when, becoming dissatisfied, they returned to their native State, where they have resided ever since. The land where he now lives was a howling wilderness when he first came on it, but, through hard work and good management, coupled with frugality, they have made a beautiful home and are surrounded by all the comforts of life. They are the parents of thirteen children, of whom nine are living, viz., Ezra, Esther, Bethana, Nancy J., Samuel, Elwood, Susannah, Emma E., Martha O.; the deceased are Job, Calvin, Edmund and Jesse; Ezra was a member of Co. B, of the 44th O. V. I., and on account of sickness received his discharge and returned home till health and vigor were restored, when he again returned to the front and nobly did his duty. Edmund was killed by accident when he was in his 13th year; he was covering corn in the field, and, while passing near a large tree, that had become detached from the roots and loosened, it fell as he was passing by, and striking him, he was crushed to the earth; he lingered a few hours in an unconscious state, and then passed quietly into the arms of his Savior. Mr. Coate was raised a Friend, but has been a member of the Christian Church for forty years—laboring long and earnestly in the cause he loves so well. Mrs. Coate is a member of the German Baptist Church of eighteen years' standing, and is an exemplary Christian woman. Their daughters, Susannah and Emma, are members of the church, the former belonging to the German Baptist and the latter to the Christian Church, both are excellent young ladies and are co-workers with their parents in their respective churches. Bethana married Noah Arnett in March, 1866; Esther married Z. Boggs in 1871; Nancy J. married Samuel Hall; Ezra married Melissa Thomas in April, 1866; Samuel was married to Mary Engall in June, 1876.

ISAAC B. COOL, farmer; P. O. Laura, Miami Co. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born in the Shenandoah Valley, Va., April 5, 1812; his parents, John and Elizabeth Cool, were natives of the same place—lived, died and are buried in the place of their nativity. To them five children were given, three of whom are living, viz., Henry, Samuel and our subject. Jacob was among the slain at the battle of Chancellorsville; Mrs. Cool died in May, 1846; Mr. Cool departed this life in August, 1854. Mr. Cool was married the second time, and by this union had two children, viz., Mary and Margaret, the latter deceased. Our subject's boyhood days were spent on the farm, having been bound out to a Rev. John Thomas, of Virginia, with whom he remained until he was 18 years of age, the stipulated time—and for two years after, which brought him to that period in our national existence when our country was struggling in the throes of civil war, when he was drafted into the army. His religious belief had inculcated an aversion and abhorrence to war, and he could not conscientiously take a part in the great struggle then pending, and, by making an intentional mistake, he boarded the wrong train and came to Ohio, where his religious belief was respected and tolerated. He first purchased 92 acres of land in this Township, on which he lived for two years, when he sold out and bought 40 acres adjoining, which he soon exchanged for the farm where he now resides. Mr. Cool is another of our self-made men; a refugee in a strange land, among strangers, and \$3 in





debt, were the embarrassing circumstances under which he began life. His first marriage was consummated with Harriet Kinsey, in February, 1863, and to their union two children were given, viz.: Noah, born in February, 1864; Susannah, born in May, 1871. Mrs. Cool departed this life in July, 1878; she was a member of the German Baptist Church, and died trusting in the promises of her Savior. His marriage with Malinda Hinegardner was celebrated in December, 1879. He and his wife are members of the German Baptist Church, and are exemplary Christian people he being one of the Deacons of the church.

MARTIN DWYRE, farmer; P.O. Red River. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born in County Limerick, Ireland, in February, 1822, and is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth Dwyre, natives of Ireland: his father was a farmer by occupation and died when our subject was but 6 months old; at the age of 18, he began life for himself, and engaged in farming; he has many vivid recollections of the great famine in Ireland, in 1845-46, and says the County Limerick was better supplied than many other counties, and the miseries and horrors of starvation did not bear so heavily upon them; among the counties that suffered the extreme pangs of hunger and want, M. Dwyre mentions those of Donegan, Leitrim, Westmeath, Tyrone, Queens, Kings, Cork and Galway; he says the suffering in some of these counties was severe, and many people suffered the excruciating tortures of hunger, and the intensity of the famine swept the whole land. Our subject was united in marriage with Mary A., daughter of Nicholas Hartley, March 17, 1847; they were the parents of eleven children, of whom four are supposed to be living—two in Ireland, if living, and a sister of Mrs. Dwyre, living in this country. Our subject left Ireland for America May 8, 1847, and landed in Quebec, his voyage occupying five weeks and three days; from Quebec he visited Montreal, St. John's, Whitehall, West Troy, thence to New York, where he remained one week, from there to Honsdale, from there to Lewisborough, N. Y., where he worked on the Erie R. R. for about three months, from there to Binghamton, where he took passage on the Erie Canal and went to Buffalo, where he remained five months; thence by steamboat he came to Sandusky, Ohio, from which point he came by rail to Springfield, Ohio; here he labored one year on the Mad River R. R., the second road that entered Springfield; from there to Mechanicsburg, where he labored two months on a turn-pike; thence to Bellefontaine for a short time; thence to Quincy, where he labored on the Little Miami R. R. for a full year; thence to Brinton and worked on the road for five or six months; from there to Westville, where he labored on the railroad for nearly one year; thence to West Milton, where he labored on a road but it was never finished; he also labored on the D. & U. R. R., then back to the Stillwater, where he laid down the shovel and bid farewell to railroading, and we believe Mr. Dwyre has helped build more miles of railroad than any other man in Darke Co., and, although his labors in this direction have occupied several years, and constantly underwent the exposure and the hardships incident to such work, he is yet hale and hearty, and none enjoy a joke or can tell a better story than Uncle Martin; after he abandoned the railroad, he settled in West Milton, where he followed farming, ditching, stone quarrying, chopping, and in fact did anything for several years that would bring an honest dollar to his coffer; in 1869, he removed to Darke Co. and leased 20 acres of Darke Co.'s woods, which he had the use of for eight years for the clearing, which he accomplished the third season, and without any assistance; in 1868, he removed to the north part of the township, and rented a farm for cash rent, but only remained one year, when he pulled up stakes and returned to Miami Co., where he carried on a farm for two years; then back to Darke Co. again and purchased 63 acres of land, where he now resides, for which he paid \$45 per acre, and soon after sold part back for \$55 per acre; the balance is all in a good state of cultivation; they are the parents of eight children, six of whom are living, viz., Thomas, Michael, Daniel, Francis, Elizabeth and Kate; the deceased are Nicholas and William.





**JOHN K. FLORY**, farmer; P. O. Painter Creek. The gentleman whose name heads this memoir is one of Darke Co.'s successful and most enterprising farmers; he was born in Montgomery Co., Dec. 8, 1834, and is a son of John and Barbara Flory, natives of Pennsylvania, and were among the early pioneers of Montgomery Co.; his father departed this life in the county of his adoption, his mother in this county, both dying at advanced ages; they were the parents of thirteen children, of whom eight are living. Our subject's youthful days were spent in rural life, and until he was 20 years of age did he labor on his father's farm, at which age he began life for himself, and followed the occupation his father had chosen before him; in 1859, he removed to Darke Co. and settled on 160 acres of land, where he now resides; hard work and the divine rulings of Providence, have made Mr. Flory a successful farmer, and his beautiful farm of well-tilled land, containing 240 acres, is ornamented with large, tasty and convenient buildings, which give his premises an imposing aspect. Mr. Flory was united in marriage with Elizabeth Stoner, daughter of Abraham Stoner, March 14, 1858; they were natives of Pennsylvania. One child was given to this union, viz., Henry, born Dec. 12, 1859; Mrs. Flory died Sept. 6, 1860, and was born Aug. 23, 1838. He was again united in the holy bonds of matrimony, with Catherine (Stauffer) Landis, June 16, 1861; her father is a native of Pennsylvania, her mother of Virginia; they were the parents of eleven children, eight of whom are living; Mr. and Mrs. Flory are the parents of ten children, viz.: Sarah, born April 18, 1862; Elias, born June 30, 1863; Mary, born Aug. 11, 1865; Annie, born July 4, 1867; Daniel, born May 27, 1869; Martha, born March 14, 1871; John, born March 26, 1873; Catherine, born Feb. 17, 1875; Jesse, born Jan. 14, 1877; Ira, born June 24, 1879; Mrs. Flory was married to Benjamin Landis, Aug. 30, 1854; one child was given to this union, viz., Benjamin, born Aug. 24, 1855. Mr. Landis departed this life June 28, 1855; Mrs. Flory was born Aug. 16, 1836. Mr. and Mrs. Flory are members of the German Baptist Church of twenty years standing, and are every-day Christian people.

**PETER GRISE**, farmer; P. O. Gettysburg, Ohio; was born in Washington Co., Md., in 1834; is a son of Jacob Grise, also born in Washington Co., Md., in 1800, and who, in 1828, united in marriage with Elizabeth Myers, and afterward moved to Montgomery Co., Ohio, he being deceased and she still living. Our subject lived at home in Montgomery Co. until 1855, when he married Malinda Wysong, and shortly after their marriage they came to Darke Co., where he now resides; on coming here, he had a little money and a team of horses; he commenced buying and selling land, and now owns 288 acres of well-improved land in this and adjoining townships, valued at about \$10,000 or \$12,000. Mr. Grise is the father of seventeen children, twelve by his first wife, and five by his present companion.

**JOSEPH GROFF**, minister and farmer; P. O. Painter Creek, Ohio. The subject of this memoir was born in Pennsylvania in October, 1836, and is a son of Abraham and Nancy Groff, who are natives of Pennsylvania, and removed to Ohio in 1849; his father died in 1870, aged 67 years; his mother is living and resides in Miami Co. Our subject was raised on the farm, and assisted his father in agricultural pursuits, and in the mean time learned the carpenter trade; he came to Darke Co. in 1873; he owns 80 acres of land in Wabash Township, where he contemplates making his future home. His marriage with Miss Catherine Remb was consummated June 27, 1858; she departed this life September 10 of the same year; he celebrated his second marriage, with Mary Shoo in November, 1859. They are the parents of six children, of whom all are living, viz.: Allie C., William H., Charles, Burton, Katie J. and Anna B.; he has been connected with the German Baptist Church for twenty-one years, and he has labored in the ministry for six years.

**JESSE R. HYER**, carriage and wagon manufacturer, P. O. Painter Creek. The subject of this memoir was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, April 1, 1840, and



is a son of Absalom and Elizabeth Hyer, natives of the same county : his father was born in August, 1814, and died in September, 1878 ; his mother was born in March, 1818, and departed this life in September, 1859 : they were the parents of ten children, of whom eight are now living, viz., Martha, Jesse, Serena, Noah, Margaret, Joshua, Abner and Susanna ; the deceased are Rachel and Maria M. Mr. Hyer, Sr., was a miller, and, in consequence, our subject learned the business, which he followed till his 19th year, when he engaged in farm labor till 1862, when he volunteered in Co. B of the 110th O. V. I., Aug. 13, 1862 : in the battle of Winchester, he received a severe wound in the left thigh, the last day of the fight, which laid him in the hospital for sixteen months, and at the expiration of this time he was placed on detached duty in the barracks at Columbus for three months, and then returned to his regiment, which was stationed in the vicinity of Petersburg, and afterward followed the fortunes of the regiment in the finishing campaigns, and was honorably discharged June 25, 1865 ; he returned to his home, and began business in his present location in 1866 ; he has good working facilities, and can turn out any kind of a vehicle or sleigh with neatness and dispatch, for Jesse is a strong rival of his cotemporaries. He was married to Sarata Shuff March 14, 1869 ; her parents were among the early settlers in the township ; to their union two children have been given, viz., Martha L., born Oct. 3, 1871 ; Walter Scott, born Oct. 18, 1877 ; he has served two terms in the Justice's office, and three terms as Clerk of the township.

DAVID D. LANDIS, farmer ; P. O. Gettysburg. The subject of this sketch was born in Miami Co. in 1858, and is a son of Daniel and Susana Landis ; his father was born in Miami Co., where he still resides ; they were the parents of fourteen children, of whom nine are living, viz., Hannah, Barbara, Henry, David, Lydia, Sarah, Catherine, Susan and Tener ; the deceased are Johnny, Abraham and Mariah ; two died in infancy. Our subject was reared on the farm and assisted in the labors thereof till he was 20 years of age. He then united in marriage with Susanna Elker, Feb. 10, 1878 ; her parents are natives of Miami Co., now residents of Darke Co. ; they are the parents of five children, viz., Sarah, Isabelle, Catherine, Simon and Amanda. Mrs. Landis is a member of the German Baptist Church, and a worthy Christian lady ; they are the parents of two children, viz., Charles E., born Dec. 20, 1878, and an infant not yet named ; Mrs. Landis was born July 31, 1857.

CHRISTIAN LANDIS, farmer ; P. O. Painter Creek. One of the old settlers of Darke Co., who was born near Canton, Ohio, in September, 1822 ; his parents, David and Barbara Landis, were born in Pennsylvania, where they resided till after their marriage, when they removed to near Canton, where our subject was born ; his father died in Shelby Co. at the age of 71 years ; his mother departed this life in Miami Co. at the age of 64 ; they were the parents of ten children, six of whom are living, viz., Catherine, now Mrs. Shively ; Barbara, now Mrs. Shaffer ; Moses, Daniel, Samuel and our subject ; the deceased are John, Elizabeth, David and Jacob. Mr. L. was reared a farmer's boy, and in that capacity labored on his father's farm till his 23d year, when he began life for himself and followed the occupation of his father ; he removed to Darke Co., in Adams Township, in 1848, where he purchased 39 acres of land, on which he resided for three years, when he sold out and removed to the place where he now resides ; in 1851, he first purchased 80 acres, on which he erected buildings, and labored faithfully for several years in removing the obstructions on his land ; becoming crippled with rheumatism, he was obliged to sell 10 acres from the west end, in order to make ends meet ; then the "ditch fever" raged in his vicinity, which necessitated a sale of 3 acres more, to enable him to perform his portion of the work ; he started in life with no capital, and, with only slight assistance, he has made a good home, in which to enjoy his declining years. His marriage with Catherine Minnich was celebrated Sept. 9, 1845 ; her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, but became residents of Ohio ; they were the parents of eight children, of whom four are now living, viz., Jacob, Catherine, David and Abraham. Mr. and Mrs. Landis are the parents of nine





children, viz.: Anna, born Oct. 24, 1846 ; Barbara, born Feb. 14, 1848 ; Mary, born July 14, 1849 ; George, born June 14, 1851 ; Elizabeth, born Feb. 4, 1854 ; Malinda, born Sept. 4, 1856 ; David, born July 4, 1858 ; Daniel, born Dec. 24, 1860 ; John, born Sept. 6, 1865 ; George died Nov. 20, 1853. They have been members of the German Baptist Church for thirty-three years, and are worthy Christian people.

**JAMES Y. McCOOL**, farmer, P. O. Gettysburg. William C. McCool, father of our subject, was born in Virginia in 1803 ; his wife, Mary, was born in Tennessee in 1808 ; they were among the early pioneers of Ohio ; his mother died in 1853, and his father is still living and resides in Delisle ; they were the parents of ten children, five boys and five girls, of whom three sons and a daughter are deceased—the living are Charity, now Mrs. Shear ; Harriet, now Mrs. Yount ; Esther, now Mrs. Kress ; Eliza, now Mrs. Shear ; William H., and James Y. Our subject was born Oct. 24, 1828, and was reared a farmer's boy and followed agricultural pursuits till 1864, when he removed to Delisle and engaged in the mercantile trade and also dealt in grain for four years, and while engaged in the business, paid as high as \$3.05 cents a bushel for wheat, which we believe is the highest figure wheat ever reached in Darke Co., as an article of commodity ; in 1868, he closed out his business in Delisle and removed to Miami Co., and engaged in farming till September, 1871, when he removed to the place where he now resides ; he has 240 acres of fine land, all in a good state of cultivation, with good improvements ; more than this, everything he possesses is the fruit of his own hard labor, as he began life without a dollar, and to-day he is among the larger landholders in the township, thus showing to the rising generation what thrift and good management, coupled with frugality, will accomplish. He celebrated his marriage with Mary A., daughter of William Long, April 1, 1858. Mr. and Mrs. Long were the parents of ten children—eight daughters and two sons ; one daughter departed this life Dec. 20, 1879 ; the rest are living and comfortably situated in life. Mr and Mrs. McCool are the parents of seven children, viz.: Amanda A. (deceased), William H. (deceased), Emma J., Sarah A., Rosey B., Harrison M. and Mary E. They are members of the Christian Church of twenty-three years, standing, and good Christian people ; they take a lively interest in the church, and are among the faithful ones.

**JOSEPH NEFF**, farmer ; P. O. Gettysburg ; was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Jan. 11, 1838, and is a son of Michael and Barbara Neff ; his father was born in Kentucky in 1800, and his mother in Montgomery County ; they were the parents of five children, of whom four are living, viz., Sarah, Eva, Jonathan and our subject ; Aaron, deceased : Mrs. Neff departed this life in 1840 ; Mr. Neff was previously married to a Miss Weaver, and had four children, viz., Abraham, Michael, Elizabeth and Margaret ; and by a third wife he had two children, viz., George and Susannah ; Mr. Neff departed this life in 1851. Our subject was reared on the farm, and he was deprived of a mother's love and tender care when only 2 years old, and at the age of 13 he lost his father ; thus young Joseph was thrown almost entirely on his own resources ; he remained on the old home place with his brother Abraham till his 18th year, when he was apprenticed to a blacksmith for three years, but only served nine months, on account of dissatisfaction, when he left, and afterward finished his apprenticeship with a man by the name of Hecka, horn ; after this, in 1859, he went to his brother-in-law, George Hepner, and worked for three years on the farm as laborer. At the expiration of this time, he united his destiny and fortune at the marriage altar with Elizabeth Frantz, March 16, 1862 ; her father was born in Virginia Feb. 5, 1800 ; her mother was born in Pennsylvania in 1809, and departed this life April 3, 1876 ; they were the parents of eleven children, of whom eight are living, viz., Mary A., Catherine, Sarah, Ann, Elizabeth, Henry, Jonas and William ; the deceased are Levi, Daniel and Lydia. After our subject's marriage, he resumed his trade in Montgomery County, which he followed for nine years, and was very successful ; in 1871, he removed





to Darke County, and, on the place where he now resides, he purchased 63 acres of improved land, and at present it is in a good state of cultivation, and well improved; he is another of Darke County's self-made men, having began life with small capital, yet, by energy and good management, combined with the assistance rendered by his amiable and industrious wife, has overcome the difficulties of life, and has a good home, and is surrounded by the comforts of life; they are the parents of six children, of whom five are living, viz.: Francis W., born April 2, 1863, and departed this life Aug. 1, 1870; Jonathan P., Sept. 8, 1864; Abraham L., Nov. 12, 1866; Barbara A., May 15, 1869; Eva M., May 6, 1875. Mrs. Neff was born April 28, 1835; he and his good wife have been members of the German Baptist Church for twelve years, and are greatly interested in their church.

**NATHAN S. PARSON**, merchant and Postmaster, Red River. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born in Pennsylvania in 1843, and is a son of Jonathan and Euphemia Parson, also natives of Pennsylvania; his father died at the advanced age of 70 years, and his mother when yet in the prime of life, aged 30; they were the parents of four children, three boys and one girl: William was a member of the 45th Penn. V. I., and was killed in the battle of South Mountain, while the regiment was making a desperate charge on the strongholds of the enemy: our subject was a member of Co. F, 55th Penn. V. I., having enlisted in October, 1861; this regiment was attached to the 10th Corps, afterward transferred to the 18th Corps, when the 18th and 10th were consolidated and became the 24th Corps, and was commanded by Gen. Ord; the regiment was engaged at Pocatigo, Drury's Bluff, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Cemetery Hill, Appomattox Court House, and in fact all the sharp, decisive battles that gave the death-blow to the great rebellion: our subject served three years and eleven months, and never received a scratch, but his physical health was considerably impaired by his exposure to army life: he was discharged in September, 1865, and returned to his home in Pennsylvania, where he engaged in farm labor for four years, and in 1869 came to Darke County, near Gettysburg, where he followed various pursuits till 1876, when he engaged in the grocery business in New Harrison for three years, thence to the place where he now is doing business: he was commissioned Postmaster of the Red River Post Office in October, 1879, at the establishment of the office; he carries a good stock of groceries and household supplies, and is receiving his share of the public patronage. He celebrated his marriage with Mary E., daughter of Eli Wolf, Feb. 23, 1872; her father is living; her mother departed this life in 1874; they were the parents of six children, of whom four are living. Mr. and Mrs. Parson are the parents of one child, viz., Mary D., born May 21, 1873. Mrs. P. is a member of the M. E. Church, and is an exemplary Christian woman. Mr. Parson made a loan of \$700 after his return from the war, and was defrauded of nearly the entire amount, as he only succeeded in collecting \$20, which brought him to Ohio.

**WILKINS RECK**, farmer; P. O. Gettysburg. The subject of this sketch is one of the permanent settlers of Darke Co.; he was born in Adams Township, near Gettysburg, Nov. 14, 1841: he is a son of Michael and Mary Reck, whose life histories appear on the pages of this work. Our subject was raised in Gettysburg, and attended school, after he had attained a proper age, till he was 15 years old, when his father removed to the farm, and young Wilkins was installed there as an assistant at performing the labors of the farm. He assisted in agricultural pursuits till his 24th year, when he volunteered in the 152d Ohio V. I., one hundred-day men; the regiment was stationed in the Shenandoah Valley and took an active part in the Lynchburg raid, as the regiment marched 475 miles in thirty days' time; they were "bushwhacked" by the notorious Mosby twice, and, in the last scratch, one man was killed in Co. H.; here many of the boys' lives were saved by the inaccurate aim of Mosby's men—by shooting too high. He was honorably discharged from his country's service Sept 14, 1864, and returned to his home and engaged in farming. He was united in marriage with Miss Emma B., an accomplished daughter of Absalom and Sarah Hoover, Aug. 10, 1865; they



were natives of Miami Co., and the parents of six children, of whom five are living, viz., Noah, Eunice, Charles, Celia and Albert; Mary A., deceased. Mr. Hoover was killed by a falling tree in May, 1858: he went into the woods one morning before breakfast for the purpose of cutting down a tree, and, as supposed, started for the house as the tree began to sway, calculating it would fall in an opposite direction, but, swinging around, he was caught by the branches and instantly killed. The accident happened on the farm where our subject now resides. Mr. Reck followed the farm till 1872, when he engaged in the butcher business in Gettysburg, which he followed four years, and was very successful, handling over \$4,000 worth of stock in the first five months of his business; in 1876, he dealt exclusively in stock, and previous to this winter he has been engaged in butchering, and prosecuting his labors on the farm in the summer time. He only received the advantage of a common-school education, such as the county afforded in his day, but by studious habits has acquired a good understanding of things in general, and his correct business habits predict a successful career. He has been identified with the offices of the township, and also in the church, and is taking considerable pains in educating his children, and, with the aptness they display, we predict the full realization of their parents' desires. He has 80 acres of land where he resides, all in a good state of cultivation, and well improved; he and his wife have been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church for nineteen years; they are observant, Christian people, and take a lively interest in their church, and are laboring for the advancement of Christianity. They are the parents of six children, of whom five are living, viz.: Harvey S., born Oct. 8, 1866; Harry G., born March 17, 1868; Lova P., born Oct. 7, 1870; Forrest, born Aug. 20, 1874, and died May 5, 1875; Berta F., born April 13, 1877; Celia M., born May 9, 1879. Mrs. Reck was born March 8, 1847.

**HIRAM ROADS**, farmer; P. O. Painter Creek. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch, was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, in July, 1838, and is a son of Jacob and Barbara Roads, natives of Ohio; his father is yet living; his mother departed this life in 1846: they were the parents of sixteen children, fourteen of whom are living. Our subject's boyhood days were spent on his father's farm, and not until he was 25 years of age did he leave the parental roof to become an actor on the stage in the great drama of life; in 1864, he began his career by locating in this township on 75 acres of land, where he still resides; prosperity has crowned his efforts, and he is one of the largest landholders in the township, having about 300 acres under his control, all of which is in a good state of cultivation and highly improved. He was united in marriage with Sarah, daughter of John Hittle, Feb. 8, 1863; her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, afterward residents of Ohio. Mr. Hittle resides in Dayton; Mrs. Hittle is dead; they were the parents of five children. Mr. and Mrs. Roads are the parents of six children, viz.: Mary C., John, Jacob, George, Jonas and Franklin. Mrs. Roads is a member of the German Baptist Church, and a consistent Christian woman.

**DANIEL SCHAURER**, farmer; P. O. Laura, Miami Co. The subject of this sketch was born in Germany Jan. 10, 1833, and is a son of Frederick and Eva Schaurer, natives of the same place, who lived, died and are buried in their native place. Our subject was reared on his father's farm, and assisted in the labors of the same till his 21st year, when he emigrated to America, leaving Germany Oct. 2; he landed in New York, his voyage occupying thirty-four days; he came directly to Cincinnati, where he remained two years, and was employed in the iron works and mills; from there he went to Montgomery Co. and followed farming and milking for ten years, thence to the place where he now resides. He first purchased 80 acres of land, partly improved, and by his own enterprise has erected splendid buildings, and, with the cheerful surroundings, his home is a very pleasant one; he is one of our self-made men, having begun life with only a small capital, but energy and persevering industry have overcome the obstacles in life's pathway, and their beautiful home is the reward of their toil. His marriage was consummated





with Elizabeth, daughter of Peter and Barbara Shanck. March 10, 1864; their life's history also appears in this work; to their union two children have been given, viz.: Henry, born March 22, 1865; Andrew J., born Oct. 2, 1866. He was a member of the 29th O. V. I., Co. C, commanded by Capt. R. L. Jones, and was enrolled Sept. 23, 1864; he joined the regiment at Atlanta, Ga., but was soon after stricken down with sickness, and laid in the hospitals of Nashville, Chattanooga and Atlanta, for about one month, then he was sent to Madison, Ind., and soon after to Jeffersonville, of the same State, where he remained some four weeks, from there to Camp Dennison for a short time, thence to Columbus, Ohio, and from there to Governor's Island, N. Y., where he remained one month, thence by steamer to New Jersey, from there to Goldsboro, N. C., and then to various other points, till the war closed, when the regiment was ordered to Washington, where they took a part in the grand review, and were immediately after sent to Camp Dennison, where he was mustered out on the 5th day of June, 1865. He has four brothers and two sisters living, viz., Jacob, Peter, George, Michael, Anna M. and Kate; the four latter live in Germany.

JOHN SPIDEL, farmer, P. O. Painter Creek.

URIAS WEAVER, farmer; P. O. Red River. Another of the old settlers of Ohio; he was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Oct. 18, 1833, and is a son of John and Catherine Weaver; his father was born in Pennsylvania, and emigrated to Montgomery Co. with his parents when 7 years of age; his mother was born in Virginia and came to Ohio when quite young; both are living and reside in Jackson Township, Montgomery Co.; they are the parents of seven children, of whom five are living, viz., Mary M., Catherine, our subject, John D. and William A.; the deceased are Sarah and Malinda. Urias was raised on the farm and assisted his father in the duties of the same until he was 26 years of age, when he began life for himself, and celebrated his marriage with Hester, a daughter of Henry and Mary Bowser, Jan. 1, 1860; they are natives of Montgomery Co., where Mr. Bowser continues to reside; Mrs. Bowser departed this life in 1859; they were the parents of four children, of whom two are living, viz.: Hester and Elizabeth; the deceased are Susannah and Allen; the latter was a member of the 91st O. V. I., and was among the slain on the bloody field of Franklin, Tenn. After his marriage, our subject began life in good earnest by engaging in farming, which pursuit he followed for four years, when he closed out and purchased a steam saw-mill, which he operated very successfully for ten years, when he disposed of the mill and appurtenances and purchased 102 acres of land; his home farm contains 82 acres of choice land and is well improved; he is another of the self-made men of Darke Co., he having begun life heavily encumbered, but by strict business integrity, coupled with good management, he has kept ahead of the hounds, and has a good home as the reward of his perseverance and industry. They are the parents of ten children, of whom seven are living, viz., Romancey A., William C., John H., Oscar O., Bertha L., Maryetta C. and Fernandis G.; the deceased are Franklin H., Clarence L. and Edgar E. Our subject has had his full share of township offices, having served as Trustee one term, Assessor three terms, and at present is one of the Land Appraisers, thus showing the good people of the township have confidence in the executive ability of our subject. He and his amiable wife are life-long members of the Lutheran Church, and warmly espouse the cause. This organization is presided over by the Rev. P. C. Schmogrow, and has a membership in the district of about twenty-five. Mrs. Weaver was born in Indiana, Feb. 27, 1842.

SOLOMON WEILLS, retired; Painter Creek. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born in Preston Co., Va., Feb. 12, 1818, and is a son of William and Sarah Weills; his father was born in Maryland in 1775, and died in 1848; his mother was born in 1781, and departed this life in 1848; they are the parents of sixteen children, of whom all are living, so far as is known, except four. Our subject was reared on the farm, where he labored till he began his





labors in the schoolroom, which he followed till he was 23 years of age. He received his preparatory education in Washington, and studied theology under his brother, who was a very eminent minister of the Lutheran Church; he frequently filled his brother's appointments, during his studies, thus gaining a practical and theoretical experience at the same time; he was ordained a minister of the Gospel in 1847, his first regular charge being in Washington Co., Penn.: here he labored for ten years, and frequently preached to other congregations: at the expiration of this time, he removed to Union Co., Ind., and was placed in charge of the Lutheran Church in Liberty, also St. Paul's Church, in an adjoining county; here he labored for seven years, and was then called to Tippecanoe, where he labored for four years, filling two regular appointments, and, he informs us, while on this charge, he preached more funeral sermons than in all his previous life in the ministry: in 1866, he went to live near Greenville, and was actively engaged for awhile; thence to Adams Township, where he remained one year; thence to the place where he now resides; he owns 163 acres of improved land, which is in a high state of cultivation. He celebrated his marriage with Lydia, a daughter of John and Hannah Shaffer, May 2, 1844; to this union six children were given, viz.: Alpheus, born Feb. 6, 1846; Mosheim, born March 4, 1848; Henrietta, born March 9, 1850; Herman J., born May 23, 1851; Agnes H., born Aug. 21, 1854, died Jan. 13, 1868; Hazelius, born March 3, 1858; Mrs. Weills died in 1865; he was again united in marriage with Martha J., a daughter of Elisha and Eliza Penny, March 5, 1873.

JOHN N. WILLIAMS, farmer; P. O. Pleasant Hill; the subject of this memoir was born in Miami Co., Ohio, in 1839, and is a son of Isaac and Sarah Williams; his father was born in Miami Co.: lived, died and is buried in the county of his nativity: his grandfather, John Williams, was born in Virginia, and settled on the farm where our subject's father spent a lifetime, where his eyes first beheld the light of day, and where he met the summons of death: on the land where his grandfather located was a place held sacred by the Indians: was a place of general rendezvous for all neighboring tribes, and on the same spot the early pioneers erected four block-houses, forming a square, which gave the settlers a place of protection and security from the many attacks of the Indians in those troublesome times. Isaac Williams was born in 1810; his wife, Sarah, was born in Montgomery Co., in 1820, and is still living; the land entered by his grandfather remained in the family name for nearly three-quarters of a century. Our subject was reared on the farm, and assisted in the labor of the same till his 21st year, when he united his destiny at the marriage altar with that of Sarah, a daughter of S. C. Miles, in 1861. In 1864, he volunteered in the 147th O. V. I. one hundred-day men; served his time and was honorably discharged; he afterward emigrated to Kansas, where he remained one year to a day, and then returned and settled on 117 acres of land in Darke Co., where he resided for six years, and then disposed of this land and removed to where he now resides; his brother Daniel was Adjutant of the 61st O. V. I., and was among the slain at the battle of Gettysburg, Penn. Mr. and Mrs. Williams are members of the Christian Church, and are exemplary Christian people; they are the parents of four children, viz., Floy, Perry L., Daniel W. and Allen.

GEORGE W. WRIGHT, minister, merchant and Postmaster, Painter Creek. The subject of this memoir was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Dec. 3, 1835, and is a son of Robert Wright, a native of Pennsylvania, who removed to Ohio in a very early day; he is still living, and resides in Miami County, his wife departed this life when in the bloom of womanhood; they were the parents of six children, three of whom are living, viz.: John, George and Susannah; the deceased are Elizabeth, Barbara and Catherine. Our subject assisted his father in agricultural pursuits till he was of age, when he began life for himself, and chose farming as his occupation, which he followed till 1867, when he came to Painter Creek and entered a partnership with his father-in-law, John Hayworth, in a general mercantile business, which they successfully followed for a period, and at his father's





law's death he assumed individual control of the business, and is still to be found at the old stand, ready to cater to the wants of the buying public; he was appointed Postmaster Nov. 14, 1879; he received his education in the common schools, which he only had the privilege of attending at certain times, but, by making good use of his time and being studious in his habits, he acquired a fair understanding, and is well fitted to discharge the many responsibilities incident to his ministerial duties; he began his labors in the ministry in 1874, and was regularly ordained a minister of the Brethren in Christ Church Nov. 14, 1877, when he received a regular charge; in 1878, he was chosen a delegate to a convention, held in Pennsylvania in November of the same year, to revise the constitution of the church; in 1879, he filled three regular appointments; this year, he fills only two. He celebrated his marriage with Elizabeth, youngest daughter of John Hayworth, May 13, 1858: her parents were among the first settlers of Darke County, both deceased; Mr. and Mrs. Wright are the parents of nine children, seven of whom are living, viz., Aaron, Eliza A., Angeline, John, Simon, Clara M. and Forrest; the deceased are Delmont and Ivens; Mr. Wright has filled the Treasurer's office of the township for two terms, and is the present incumbent; he has also filled the office of School Director for three terms; his grandfather was born in Ireland, and emigrated to America and settled in Pennsylvania, where he married, and afterward removed to Montgomery County; the D. & U. R. R. passed between his house and barn, and, while attempting to pass from the barn to the house, he was caught by a passing train and thrown some seventy feet from the point of collision and instantly killed, aged 70 years; his grandmother survived a few years, and departed this life at the age of 95.

## HARRISON TOWNSHIP.

JACOB ARMACOST, farmer, Sec. 17; P. O. New Madison.

GEORGE BACON, hardware merchant, New Madison; was born Dec. 26, 1826, in Jefferson Co., N. Y.; removed with his parents to Michigan in 1834, where he remained until 1848, when he went to Cincinnati, and thence to different parts of Ohio, locating in New Madison in 1849, and engaged in mercantile business, which he has continued ever since, having now become one of the substantial business men of New Madison, being one of the firm of Bacon & Aughee. Mr. Bacon was married to Clara Aughee Feb. 17, 1850, at the home of her parents, near New Paris, Preble Co. They have two children—Orla and Flora.

JOHN BILLMAN, farmer, Sec. 26; P. O. New Madison.

T. J. BLOOM, miller; P. O. and residence New Madison. The business interests of New Madison could not be properly presented without a more than passing notice of "The New Madison Mills," of which Mr. Bloom is proprietor. He came here in 1868; the business of the mill could then be done in from two to three days' run in each week. In 1875, Mr. Bloom determined on improvement; tore down the old mill and rebuilt it, placing an entire new set of machinery, which included the patent process, and now has a capacity to produce forty barrels of flour and grind 150 bushels of corn in a twelve-hour run, and is prepared, both by experience and improved methods, to produce the very best of flour; he is doing both a custom and merchant business, and such is the reputation of his flour, that he sells all of it on orders, thus saving the expense and risk of consignments. Mr. Bloom, although a young man, is already one of the prominent and substantial business men of New Madison. He was born in Preble Co. in 1845; his father was a miller, and T. J. naturally grew to be a miller while young. He enlisted in the three-months service in 1862, and was taken prisoner at Harper's Ferry and held until some time after the expiration of his term of service, then





paroled, after which he returned to New Madison and resumed milling. Was married in 1864 to Miss Mary C., daughter of Lewis S. Davis, of Richmond, Ind.; they have one child—Charles.

**WILLIAM BROWN**, farmer, Sec. 36; P. O. Brinley Station; was born in Virginia Nov. 21, 1807; his parents came to Ohio in 1808, traveling on horseback and first settled in Washington Co., afterward in Clinton Co.; about the time becoming 21, his parents removed to Warren Co., when he began life for himself, having had but little education, he worked out by the day or month, as he had opportunity, until 1840, when he came to Preble Co. and took charge of a farm belonging to his sister, her husband having died March 17, 1842. He was married to Susanna Shuman; she was born in Preble Co. Nov. 29, 1823; they settled on a farm he had previously purchased in Harrison Township, Darke Co.; after remaining about two years he removed to Preble Co., where he purchased a farm; they remained here until 1853; he purchased 151 acres in Darke Co., where they removed and have since lived. Mr. Brown now owns two 80-acre tracts in Preble Co., under good cultivation, besides the home farm, which is well improved, and altogether worth at least \$15,000. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are the parents of eight children—Hannah, born Jan. 6, 1843, now Mrs. Milton Thomas, of Preble Co.; Joseph, born Nov. 25, 1844, now living in Preble Co., on Sec. 25, Harrison Township; Sarah J., born Feb. 5, 1847, now Mrs. Geo. Miller, also of Harrison Township; Wm. S., born April 14, 1849; John H., born Oct. 9, 1851; Thomas M., born July 9, 1854; Franklin J., born Oct. 23, 1856; Jacob S., born May 12, 1859; all of whom are now living.

**EDWARD J. BUNCH**, retired; New Madison; born in Harrison Township Jan. 17, 1827. His parents, Nazareth Bunch and Permelia (Simons) Bunch, were among the pioneer settlers of Darke, having emigrated from Perquimons Co., N. C., in 1824, and entered a quarter-section of land, upon which this son was born, reared, and now owns. Mr. E. J. Bunch commenced business for himself in 1852, purchasing a stock of goods in New Madison, which business he continued about two years, when he sold out. A short time after this a remarkable incident occurred; he was bitten by a rabid dog, and, although the same dog had bitten a son of Washington Ubrem, and also a number of cattle, hogs, etc., he alone recovered, being attended by Dr. G. Miesse, of Greenville. Mr. Bunch and Miss Catherine Coblentz were married at the home of her parents, in Butler Township, Nov. 22, 1855; soon after they went on a farm he owned in Harrison Township, and have continued to live in Harrison Township ever since, owning different tracts of land until 1862, when he purchased the old homestead, where he lived until 1877, when he purchased a handsome residence property in New Madison, where he now resides; he has just completed a fine brick building, near the railroad track, which he designs for a warehouse. Mr. and Mrs. Bunch are the parents of three children—Eva and Edward, the first having died in infancy.

**CHARLES W. CHENOWETH**, farmer, Sec. 5; P. O. Hollandsburg. Old was born in Maryland Sept. 3, 1830; in 1838, he came with his parents to Darke Co.; they settled in Harrison Township, and afterward removed near Arba, Randolph Co., Ind.; his mother now resides there; his father's death occurred in 1876. The subject of this sketch remained at home with his parents until his marriage with Minerva J. Harrison, which occurred Feb. 24, 1853, after which they lived with her parents in German Township until the following fall, then removed to Randolph Co., Ind.; remained there until 1856, when they removed to Harrison Township, Darke Co., and lived on Sec. 3 eight years; then removed to the farm in German Township, upon which her father settled in 1832; remained there until 1876, then removed to the farm near Hollandsburg, where he now resides; his wife's death occurred here Sept. 28, 1878. The following is an extract from the obituary notice, written by her Pastor: "In the death of Sister Chenoweth the husband has lost a kind and affectionate wife, the children a loving and indulgent mother, the church a worthy member, and the community an ex-





plary Christian character. She united with the Christian Church at Hollandsburg in the year 1854, during a meeting held by Father Ashley, and lived a consistent Christian life until death summoned her to her reward." She left seven children, viz.: William A., born Dec. 26, 1854, married to Rosa Thomas in 1877, and now resides in German Township; James A., born Oct. 21, 1857, married to Emma Karn Sept. 28, 1879, and now resides in German Township; Marietta K., born Oct. 11, 1860 (now Mrs. Geo. Sharpe), and resides in Harrison Township; Washington E., born Oct. 14, 1862; Morton M., Nov. 6, 1865; Ellennora B., Dec. 31, 1869, and Elmer E., July 1, 1872; the four last are all at home and attending school. Mr. Chenoweth has been an active, industrious citizen, and quite successful; starting poor, he has steadily advanced, and now owns, besides his home farm adjoining Hollandsburg, which consists of 87 acres well improved, 178 acres in German Township in a good state of cultivation, with fair improvements; his two married sons now live on and farm this place. Mr. Chenoweth purchased the farm where he now resides in 1875, for the purpose of getting better church and school privileges for his family. He has been a prominent member of the Christian Church here, and is now Deacon and one of the Trustees, and is an active, useful member of society and a substantial citizen. He was married to Mary A. Felton Sept. 14, 1879.

JOHN DARLAND, farmer; P. O. New Madison, resides Sec. 11; was born in Nicholasville, Ky., May 30, 1805, and came with his parents to Preble Co., Ohio, in 1810; he remained with his parents during his minority, receiving but little education; after he became of age, he worked wherever he had opportunity, making his home with his parents until his marriage with Martha Beatley, which occurred April 22, 1839; he then rented a farm; two years later he purchased and removed to a farm in Wayne Co., Ind.; in 1865, he purchased the farm upon which they now and have since resided. They are the parents of nine children, viz.: Harrison, born July 14, 1840; Benjamin, born Aug. 7, 1842; Oliver, born Dec. 20, 1845; Thomas, born Jan. 10, 1848; Margaret J., now Mrs. John Hill, born June 4, 1853; George, born March 27, 1856; Mary E., born Aug. 10, 1858; John M., born Jan. 15, 1862; and Dora, born July 30, 1865. Mr. Darland, as will be seen, started with nothing but his own energy and physical strength to rely upon, and has gradually advanced, until by his energy, industry and economy, he now has 230 acres of land, with good buildings; they have raised a large family, all of whom are living, some at home and some in distant States. Mr. and Mrs. Darland are both of the quiet, substantial type, highly respected citizens, and he is a useful, respected citizen.

THOMAS J. DAVIS, (deceased); was born in Butler Co., Ohio, July 29, 1834; came to Darke Co. in 1854, and engaged in the furniture and undertaking business, which he continued until 1867, then started a general store at Hollandsburg, which he continued until the time of his decease, which occurred Aug. 6, 1879; the following extract from the obituary written by one who knew him, shows how he was regarded by his neighbors: "Mr. Davis was an active, intelligent, useful citizen, esteemed by all who knew him; was a worthy member of the Masonic Order, and always cherished and sustained all efforts for the support and propagation of that which was good and noble." He was married to Mary E. Harrison, June 8, 1856; she is a daughter of Harvey Harrison, who was one of the pioneers of German Township, and a successful physician for more than twenty years; they were the parents of three children, viz., Harvey E., Florence J. and Charles C. Harvey E., when about 15 years of age, became deaf, the effect of a severe sickness; he is now a young man and an artist; the way in which he became an artist is remarkable and somewhat romantic; when he first realized that he was permanently deaf, he was nearly beside himself, so great was his grief and mortification, and in his desperation the thought came to his mind that perhaps he could make a picture, and he immediately proceeded to try; with some common paint, procured from a paint shop near by, a pallet and brush of





his own manufacture, a smooth board for a canvass, and a picture of a little girl for a subject, he executed his first portrait; the result so astonished his parents and friends that he was provided with the necessary outfit, and such was his delight at finding he could do something, notwithstanding his deafness, that he threw his entire energy into his efforts, and, although he never had any instruction except such as he could get from books, he now executes a portrait which will compare favorably with productions of regularly instructed artists, and proves him to be a genius in art. Mrs. Davis and her three children still reside at the home provided by the loving and lamented husband and father; she is an intelligent, modest woman.

D. B. DENHAM, retired; P. O. New Madison; was born in Denhamstown, on the Ohio River, Oct. 3, 1809; when about 6 years old, his mother died, and his father bound him to J. Lyon, a wagon-maker of Springfield, Ohio, when he was 14 years old, his master, Mr. Lyon, died, and Mr. Denham then engaged to learn the blacksmith trade; after completing his apprenticeship, he worked as journeyman in Troy and Hamilton, Ohio, and different places in Indiana, and in 1833, returned to Troy, and married Miss Rebecca Marshall, a native of Pennsylvania, born in Bucks Co., Sept. 6, 1811; after his marriage, he continued to work at his trade in Troy and Staunton, until 1845, he removed to Pulaski Co., Ind., but not being satisfied here, he returned in a few months to Troy, Ohio, and resumed blacksmithing in partnership with a Mr. Daily; in 1858, removed to Darke Co., and purchased 127 acres of land in York Township; after living here one year, returned to Troy; a year or two later, he removed to Dallas, where he worked at his trade a short time, after which, he again went on to his farm in York Township, but only remained about one year, then removed to Brown Township, where he remained until 1866; he sold out in York Township and came to New Madison, purchased 80 acres in Harrison Township, near New Madison, also several pieces of property in New Madison, including the residence in which they now reside, upon one of these lots he built a shop, in which he carried on blacksmithing until, quite recently, he sold his shop, tools and stock, and is now living a quiet, retired life. Mr. and Mrs. Denham are the parents of six children, only one of whom is living—Charles M., a harness-maker of New Madison. The names of the deceased are Rachael J., Henrietta, Sarah E., Nancy T., and the first, who died in infancy. Rachael J. was married to Charles A. Reigle, Oct. 9, 1861, Uzeuno and Estell V., their son and daughter, are now of Mr. Denham's family; Sarah E. was married to Charles D. Bevington, Nov. 21, 1867; Frank W. B., their son, is also with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Denham. It will be seen by this record that Mr. Denham has lived not so much for himself as for others.

JASON DOWNING, farmer, Sec. 10; P. O. New Madison; was born in Chester Co., S. C., April 14, 1811; son of John and Margaret (Faris) Downing, both of Irish descent; Jason came with his parents to Darke Co., in 1817, and was raised during the early times, in Harrison Township, and is one of the most intelligent and best informed of the few now living, who were here at so early a day, his father having been a teacher in South Carolina, he received a fair education, he remained at home until about 27 years of age; his father had a blacksmith shop on his farm, and hired a smith part of the time; Jason spent considerable time in this shop, and obtained a pretty good idea of the trade, but thought he would try teaching school; after one term, he concluded that did not suit him, and he learned the brickmason's trade, at which he became very proficient, and has followed it more or less all his life, having done some brickwork during the past year. Dec. 16, 1841, he was married to Rebecca J., daughter of John and Jane Beard, who were pioneers of Butler Township; after his marriage, they settled on the farm upon which they now reside; he had previously purchased it, put up a cabin and made some improvements, but when he was ready to occupy it, he built a house, which forms a part of his present commodious dwelling; the old cabin, now used as a sort of shop, is about the only reminder of those early days of hard labor and privations he so well remembers. The farm now consists of 120 acres.





80 of which are under cultivation ; thus Mr. and Mrs. Downing were early settlers and are now among the oldest residents of Harrison Township, and have contributed their full share toward the growth and improvement of Darke Co. They are the parents of eight children, viz.: Robert, born Sept. 18, 1843, now married and resides in Sec. 9 ; Samuel, born April 17, 1846, died Aug. 24, 1852 ; Margaret J., born Oct. 12, 1848, now Mrs. George W. Miller, of Preble Co. ; Sarah C., born June 1, 1851, now Mrs. J. E. Armacost, resides in Harrison Township ; George W., born Sept. 22, 1853, still at home ; Fanny E., born April 7, 1856, now Mrs. L. W. Armacost.

**JAMES L. DOWNING**, farmer, Sec. 10 ; P. O. New Madison ; was born Feb. 20, 1852, on the farm where he has since and at present resides : he is the son of John E. and Sarah M. Downing ; John E. was born in South Carolina, and came with his parents to Darke Co. when a boy ; Sarah M. (Morrison-Brawley) Downing, was born in Preble Co. and came with her husband to Darke Co. in 1833 ; they settled upon the farm upon which the son, James L., now lives, his mother living with him, the father having died Oct. 27, 1872 ; the Downings were very early settlers and are noticed at some length in the township history ; the farm upon which Mr. James L. and his aged mother now live, was partly cleared and improved by John Tibbs, a pioneer of Harrison Township, from whom John E. purchased it. The old log cabin with stick chimney which Mr. Tibbs built, still stands where he placed it, as a reminder of the limited accommodations and privations of the early settlers ; since the time it was built, the dense forest has been cleared away and cultivated fields now greet the eye ; a neat and commodious house has been built, also a frame barn and other buildings for the accommodation of stock and storage of grain, implements, etc., evidences of industry, economy and practical wisdom. Mrs. Sarah M. Downing is the mother of nine children by her first husband, John Brawley, viz.: Thomas S., born May 29, 1836, now married and resides in Kansas ; Martha Ann, born Oct. 10, 1837, died Sept. 16, 1838 ; Levi P., born Jan. 19, 1840, was married to Louisa J., daughter of Patterson Purviance, died April 13, 1862 ; by her second husband, John E. Downing ; Louisa J., born Nov. 29, 1843, now Mrs. Allen Tyler of Preble Co. ; Mary C., born March 19, 1846, died Dec. 31, 1876 ; Melissa E., born Nov. 7, 1849, died Aug. 19, 1876 ; James L., born Feb. 20, 1852 ; Margaret E., born May 2, 1855, died April 20, 1877 ; infant son, born March 9, 1858, died Sept. 6, 1858 ; Florence A., born Dec. 11, 1859, died July 24, 1879 ; Ruth A., born August 15, 1862. Mr. Downing is the inventor of "Downing's Hand Planter," which bids fair to excel all other hand planters. In politics he has been a lifelong Democrat ; he cast his first ballot for Andrew Jackson ; he was a member of the School Board for more than twenty years, and has always been an intelligent, useful citizen, and, although somewhat advanced in years, is now a very intelligent, social, agreeable gentleman.

**JOHN M. FLAIG**, farmer ; P. O. New Madison. He was born Jan 25, 1831, in Wurtemberg, Germany ; emigrated to the United States when 23 years of age, and worked at a trade (tanner) in New Jersey for one man seven years ; in 1860, Mr. Flaig came to Richmond, Ind., near which place he purchased land and farmed two years ; then sold and removed to New Paris, where he took an interest in a tannery, which he soon sold, not liking his partner, and removed to New Madison ; rented the tannery now owned by Mrs. Snodgrass, whose biography appears in this work, which he operated four years, after which he engaged in the grocery and provision trade ; this he continued ten years, burning, during this time, many kilns of brick, and building the walls of most of the fine school buildings which now ornament the country in this vicinity ; in the fall of 1874, Mr. Flaig visited his old home and other parts of Germany, returning about Christmas ; in 1876, he sold his store and purchased a farm adjoining the corporation, which he still owns, living in his fine brick residence in town ; of public honors, he has had a full share, holding one or more town and township offices almost continuously with his residence here, being at the present time Town Treasurer, Township Appraiser and





School Director. He was married to Agnes Straub, in Philadelphia, April 23, 1856; they were the parents of one child, Joseph, who is now living with his father; Mrs. Flaig's death occurred June 12, 1857. Mr. Flaig and Elizabeth Hambil were married in Philadelphia April 17, 1858; they have four children—Lizzie, Wilhelm, John A. and Henry B., all of whom are living at home; the mother of Mrs. (Straub) Flaig, Mrs. Odela Straub, who was born in 1803, and whose husband died at sea during the voyage from Germany, in 1853, is now also a member of this interesting household.

WALTER W. FRENCH, retired physician, residence Sec. 10; P. O. Hollandsburg. He was born in Jefferson Co., Va., March 1, 1792; his father, Samuel French, was a teacher, and gave his family more than ordinary advantages; when Walter was about 20, he enlisted in the army, but was mustered out in about six months, without seeing any service in the field. Soon after his return, he was married to Rachael P. Blue. For several years he acted as collector, at the same time reading medicine; in 1823, they removed to Brownsville, Ohio, and the following year his wife died, leaving three children—James W., Samuel J. and Mary J.; he then returned to Virginia, and her mother took care of the children until his marriage with Lavina Bailey, after which he purchased a farm in Jefferson Co., Va., where they lived until 1838, when he came with his family to Darke Co., first settling in Washington Township, and practiced medicine there about six years; then removed to Hollandsburg, where he practiced and also kept store for more than twenty years; in 1869, he was robbed of over \$8,000 in cash; in 1871, he purchased and removed to the farm, where he now resides, with his widowed daughter, Jane; in 1874, his second wife died; she bore him six children, viz.: Phoebe L., now Mrs. Robert Little, of Columbus, Ind.; Rachel A., now Mrs. J. G. Harland, of Union City, Ind.; Elizabeth, now Mrs. D. Ryan, of Hollandsburg; Emily E., now Mrs. J. M. Harrison, of Hollandsburg, and Martha L. and Walter J. B., both deceased; of his first wife's children, Samuel J. is deceased; James W. resides near Princeton, Ind.; Mary Jane was married July 16, 1839, to John C. Heironimus, whose death occurred July 23, 1879, he being 69 years of age; they had eleven children—Elmira L., born April 20, 1840, married to David Tittle in 1872, and died July 3, 1877; Walter A., born Nov. 29, 1841; Eliza J., born Nov. 22, 1843, now Mrs. Jacob Anderson, of Wayne Co., Ind.; Eliza A., born Dec. 5, 1845, died Aug. 6, 1865; Narcissus V., born Oct. 27, 1847, now Mrs. Leander Anderson, also of Wayne Co., Ind.; John W., born Feb. 17, 1850; Andrew P., born March 13, 1852, died Aug. 6, 1874; Camellius P., born Oct. 25, 1853, died Jan. 19, 1855; Charles W., born March 7, 1856, now a resident of Wayne Co., Ind.; Minerva C., born June 12, 1857, now Mrs. Oliver P. Anderson, also of Wayne Co., Ind., and Emma R., born May 24, 1861; Mr. French is an old resident of Darke Co., and one of the three oldest men now living in Harrison Township, being in his 85th year; he has been successful as a merchant, and in his day enjoyed a large practice as a physician; he has not practiced any for the past ten or twelve years; he now lives with and is cared for by his daughter, Jane Heironimus, her sons, Walter and John W., farming the place.

AARON HARTER, grocer and confectioner, New Madison; one of the old residents of Darke County; was born in Butler Township Nov. 15, 1829; son of Samuel Harter, who was a native of Virginia and came to Darke County in 1818, and purchased a farm with a small clearing on it, near what is now New Madison, where he lived until his death, which occurred May 13, 1865. Aaron lived at home until 38 years of age, receiving while a boy such an education as he was able to secure in bad weather during the winter months; after he became "of age" he took charge of the farm, and, in their latter days, the care of his parents; after their decease, he continued to live at the old homestead about three years, when he sold out and removed to New Madison, owning several different pieces of property and changing about somewhat, until, about 1872, he purchased the residence property in New Madison, in which he first lived, and has continued to live here ever





since. He was married Aug. 14, 1851, to Susan E. Boyer; she was born in Preble County, Ohio, Nov. 8, 1832; they are the parents of two children—William B., born May 8, 1852, died July 7, 1861; and Alvin R., born Aug. 4, 1857, now assisting his father in the store.

SOLOMON HARTER, retired farmer, Sec. 12; P. O. New Madison; one of the old settlers of Darke County; he was born in Virginia Feb. 3, 1808; is the son of Francis Harter, who came to Darke County at an early day, bringing eight sons with him, all but one of whom became residents of Darke County; Solomon was about 8 years old when they came, and was reared in the wilderness, assisting in clearing and improving the farm. July 4, 1830, he was married to Margaret Ullum, who also belonged to a pioneer family; she was born Aug. 15, 1808; about two years after their marriage, they settled on the farm where he has since resided; her death occurred July 17, 1862; they had five children, only two of whom are living—Elam, who resides in Butler Township; and M. K., who lives on and farms his father's place, his father living with him. Mr. Harter has been quite feeble for some time, but has had the satisfaction of seeing the wilderness subdued and fine farms with substantial improvements take the place of the forest which once covered the face of this now fertile region.

J. A. HARTMAN, farmer; P. O. New Madison. The subject of this sketch was born in Lancaster Co., Penn., Jan. 18, 1847; when he was 2 years of age, his mother died and he lived with his uncle, John Stauffer, until 16 years of age; then came to Montgomery Co., where his father then lived, and worked in that neighborhood, principally chopping wood, four years; then came to Darke Co., and worked by the month two years; then engaged with J. W. Singer, to sell trees, etc., from the Hill Home nursery of Miami Co. His marriage with Mary A. Noggle was celebrated at the home of her mother, in New Madison, March 9, 1871; she was a daughter of John Noggle, and is a sister to George N. Noggle, whose biography appears in this work, and is an intelligent lady; Mr. Hartman had already purchased a house and lot in New Madison, where they began the duties of domestic life; in the fall of 1873, they removed to a farm in Sec. 17, Butler Township, 40 acres of which came to her by her parents, and 40 acres he traded his house and lot for; the following year, they sold that place, and rented of Mr. Forkner, in Sec. 18, Butler Township; about six months later, he purchased the north half of the northwest quarter of Sec. 8, and in the spring of 1875 they removed to this place. In the fall of 1877, he traded 15 acres of that place, with the buildings, for the 80 acres in Harrison Township, where they now reside. It will be seen that Mr. H. is a self-made man; commencing when a boy by cutting wood by the cord, and working by the month, he saved enough to get a home, and has increased it, but not without industry and economy, and now owns 140 acres, in a good state of cultivation, and, although a young man, is already one of the substantial citizens of Darke Co. Mr. and Mrs. Hartman are the parents of four children—Kate, Edith, Allie, and Ann E., deceased.

OBADIAH HILL, retired, New Madison; was born in what was then Baltimore Co., Md., March 17, 1790; when about 9 years old, was bound out to a weaver; his master, as he was termed, died when he was about 19 years of age, and he was free, but voluntarily bound himself at the same trade for three years more, after which he wagoned ten years; he then resumed his trade, continuing ten years, after which he came to the West, first stopping near the ground upon which the Ohio Soldier's Home is now situated, and lived in Montgomery Co. nearly one-quarter of a century, renting one farm of one man for eighteen successive years; then removed to Preble Co. and purchased 160 acres of land, which he improved, and sold six years later at a handsome profit; he then removed to Darke Co., where he has resided ever since, owning and cultivating different tracts of land; in the fall of 1876, he purchased a handsome residence property in New Madison, in which he and his wife now live. Mr. Hill was married to Eliza Fisher, who was also a native of Maryland, in 1821; they were the parents of ten children, seven of whom are now





living—William, Jonathan, Jacob. Mary A., now Mrs. John Ullery, of Kan.; Eliza A., now Mrs. Stephen Ullery, of South Bend, Ind.; Jemima, now Mrs. Hickathorn, of Dayton, and Jenny, now Mrs. Henry Bougher, of Butler Co.; the names of the three deceased are Margaret, George W. and James; Mrs. Hill's death occurred near New Madison Sept. 9, 1875, being 74 years old; Mr. Hill and Mrs. Missouri (Shannon) Ullery, a native of Pennsylvania, were married Sept. 19, 1876. Mr. Hill, although in his 90th year, is in good health, and walks as though only 50.

**HARVEY HILL**, carpenter and builder, Sec. 15; P. O. New Madison; was born in Harrison Township March 15, 1822; he is a son of William and Sarah (Ferris) Hill, who were among the pioneers of Harrison Township; he remained with his parents until August, 1838, when he began his apprenticeship at the carpenter trade; after serving the full three years, he began for himself and has followed carpentering and building ever since, working in this and neighboring counties; Mr. Hill was twice married, first to Martha A. Thomas, Nov. 2, 1845, she was a daughter of David Thomas and a cousin to William Thomas, whose biography appears in this work; she was born July 21, 1846, and her death occurred May 11, 1873; they had six children, viz.: Hiram J., born July 21, 1846, died Aug. 6, 1846; Celinda A., born Oct. 29, 1848, now Mrs. Henry Spencer, of Red Key, Jay Co., Ind.; Nancy C., born July 13, 1853, now Mrs. John Pitts, of Portland, Ind.; Charles F., born July 20, 1856, now in Rock Island Co., Ill.; Morton L., born Sept. 17, 1862, also of Rock Island Co., Ill., and William D., born Sept. 12, 1871, now at home and attending school; Mr. Hill's second marriage was with Jane (Owens) Mansfield; she was born in Harrison Township, Jan. 1, 1820; her parents, Samuel and Sabina Owens, were natives of Kentucky, and pioneers of Harrison Township; she was the mother of three children by her first husband, viz.: William W. Mansfield, who was a member of the 62d I. V. I., and after a service of nearly four years, died in the service; Thomas O. and Andrew Jackson, also deceased.

**MILTON HILL**, farmer, Sec. 16; P. O. New Madison; one of the oldest residents of Harrison Township; he was born, raised, and has lived all his life on the farm where he now resides; he was born Feb. 10, 1820; has been twice married, first to Miss Amanda J. Downing, Nov. 14, 1839; she was born in Tennessee, Jan. 25, 1819; they had nine children, eight of whom are now living, viz., Alfred, Joseph, Sarah, Melinda, John, Ezra, Martha and Ella. The name of the deceased is Asa; his wife's death occurred Feb. 13, 1872; his second marriage was with Sarah J. Wiley, Feb. 1, 1873; who was born in Preble Co., June 12, 1826; their homestead now consists of the old Hill homestead of 80 acres, and 80 acres adjoining to Sec. 15, all in a good state of cultivation, with a fine new house and other buildings to correspond; it would present a picture of great contrast by the side of one of the appearance it had forty years ago, for Mr. Hill has devoted his attention entirely to the cultivation and improvement of his land, and, while taking a lively interest in all that pertains to the public good, has not sought public distinction.

**WILLIAM HINDSLEY**, farmer; P. O. New Madison; another of the old residents of Darke Co.; his father, John H. Hindsley, was a native of Maryland, and went to North Carolina when a boy; was married to Annie Stone, and they moved to Tennessee in 1823; to Preble Co., Ohio, in 1826, and came to Darke County in the spring of 1827; he entered land in Sec. 14, upon which they lived the remainder of their days. The subject of this sketch was born in North Carolina, in 1815, accompanied his parents to Darke County, in 1827, and has resided here ever since, purchased the old homestead in 1848; his father's death having occurred in 1847, and his mother had her home with him until her decease, which occurred in 1860. The present neat and substantial buildings have been erected by him, and the farm is now in an advanced state of cultivation, situated on a free gravel pike near enough to New Madison to afford excellent school privileges. Mr. Hindsley may well feel a just pride in what has been accomplished by the developments of the past fifty years; he is now nearing the threescore-and-ten period of his life, and has





been a quiet, unassuming, but enterprising and useful citizen. He was married in 1838, to Annie Butt, daughter of Samuel Butt, a native of Maryland, and at that time a resident of Darke County; they have nine children—Isabel (now Mrs. Jerry Runkle), Mary A. (now Mrs. Joseph Ray), David, Rufus, Franklin, Margaret, Eliza, Joseph and Harriet.

AARON A. IRELAN, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 6; P. O. Hollandsburg; one of the substantial men of Darke Co.; was born in Preble Co., Ohio, Sept. 12, 1818; he is a son of Moses Irelan, who came from Cincinnati to Preble Co. at an early day, and in 1831, settled in Butler Township, Darke Co. Aaron remained at home until 1843, receiving but very little education, having to walk five miles to get to the nearest school; his first business for himself was "huckstering," which he followed for a short time, then engaged in the dry-goods trade. He was married to Phebe Tillson Oct. 18, 1846; she is the daughter of Isaiah Tillson, one of the pioneers of Harrison Township. After their marriage, he continued in the dry-goods trade until 1852; he became satisfied, that that business did not suit him, and sold out and purchased a farm adjoining Hollandsburg; the following two years, he changed around from one to another farm in the neighborhood; in the spring of 1864, he removed to the farm where he now resides; he now has 100 acres of land in German Township, in a good state of cultivation, with good buildings, also 40 acres in Monroe Co., Ind., besides the home farm, which consists of 290 acres; this is nicely located, and only about one-half mile from the town of Hollandsburg, which affords good school and church privileges; the Middle Branch of Whitewater passes through the farm, affording excellent and abundant water for his stock, and when he gets the house and other improvements, which it is his purpose to build, he will have a home of which they will justly feel proud. They are the parents of nine children, four of whom are living, viz.: Norman T., resides in German Township; William D., Cora B. and Clara L. Mr. Irelan, though not among the oldest citizens, is an old resident of Harrison Township, and has been and now is a quite prominent, active and useful citizen; has administered several estates; was a member of the Township Board of Trustees ten successive years, and afterward three years; also Justice of the Peace for upward of fifteen years, and is now a member of the Township Board of Education. Mr. Irelan is a self-made man, having gained a knowledge of business by his experience while in the dry-goods trade, the knowledge and experience being about all the benefit he derived from that business, but it has enabled him by energy and industry to place himself in the front rank among the farmers of Harrison Township.

LUCINDA JAQUA, retired, New Madison.

THOMAS KYLE, retired farmer; P. O. New Madison; was born Jan. 4, 1809, in Butler Co., Ohio; remained with his parents until his marriage with Eliza Harcrader, which occurred Oct. 5, 1835, after which he removed to Preble Co., and purchased a farm, where he lived over forty years, his wife's death occurring there Oct. 5, 1845; they were the parents of six children, five of whom are now living, viz.: Martha A., now Mrs. David McClure; Sara J., now Mrs. William Brown, of Preble Co.; Eliza, now Mrs. John K. McCabe; Maria, now Mrs. Shuman, of Kokomo, Ind., and Emeline, now Mrs. William Cheeseman, of Butler Co., Ohio; the name of the deceased was Catharine. August 25, 1846, Mr. Kyle was married to Mrs. Maria (Hunter) Williams; they are the parents of five children, three of whom are living, viz.: Margaret A., now Mrs. Henry Miller, and William J., both of Preble Co., and John F., of Butler Township; the deceased are Elizabeth, Ellen and Laura B. Mr. Kyle, now well along in years, has been an active citizen and succeeded in accumulating considerable property, and now owns, after helping his children liberally, 165 acres of land in Butler Township, and 240 acres in Preble Co., all in a good state of cultivation, also 249 acres in Cass Co., Mo., and the neat, comfortable residence in New Madison, in which they expect to spend the remainder of their days.

RILE LAWRENCE, farmer, Sec. 25; P. O. New Madison.





A. A. LOWDENS LAGER, farmer, Sec. 8 ; P. O. Hollandsburg.

DANIEL MILLER, farmer, Sec. 25 ; P. O. New Madison ; was born in Preble Co., Ohio, Nov. 19, 1829 ; son of Geo. C. and Elizabeth Miller, who came to Darke Co. in 1831, settling on the farm the son now owns, and which, at that time, was a wilderness, the family stopping with a neighbor until a cabin could be built. Here the subject of this sketch was reared, attending school in the log schoolhouse, when there was a school, and when he could not help at home. Oct. 15, 1871, he was married to Rebecca, daughter of Rile Lawrence, who was one of the early settlers of Harrison Township. They commenced housekeeping in his father's old house, and although the old log cabin still forms a part of their present house, the old homestead has been very much changed, and Mr. Miller intends soon to erect a fine residence upon the old site ; he has added to the old homestead, and now owns upward of 330 acres, 116 being in Butler Township and 48 in Sec. 24, Harrison Township. Although not specially active, Mr. Miller is a staunch Republican, and has always taken an interest in the public good.

JOHN W. MILLS, farmer ; P. O. New Madison ; a son of Mark T., and grandson of, James Mills. James Mills was a native of New Jersey ; married Sarah Read, after which he resided in Pennsylvania ; came to Butler Co., Ohio, in 1802, was an officer of militia in the war of 1812. The siege of Ft. Meigs was one of the engagements in which he and his son, Mark T., then a lad of 17, partook. He removed to Darke Co. in 1816 and located in Butler Township, where he resided until 1833, when he removed to Ft. Jefferson, and died there the same year of cholera. During his life he was quite a prominent man, an active politician, represented his district in the Legislature. Mark T. was a young man when his father moved into the woods of Darke Co., in 1816 ; was married here to Lydia Burd g in 1821 ; she was the daughter of Anthony and Sarah (Vale) Burd g, who were early residents of Neave Township ; after his marriage, he resided in Butler Township, on what is now known as the Swisher farm. He was also a representative of this district in the State Legislature, holding the office two terms, his first being in 1829 ; he was also Sheriff of Darke Co., after which he resided in Neave Township a short time, then removed to Washington Township ; located about four miles west of Greenville, where his death occurred March 20, 1843. The widow is now in the 81st year of her age ; is the wife of Henry Hutton, who was among the first settlers near Ft. Black, in 1817. They now reside in New Paris. John W. Mills was born in Greenville Oct. 14, 1825, his father at that time being Sheriff of Darke Co. He was married in 1848 to Melinda, daughter of John and Elizabeth Rush. Both Mr. and Mrs. Mills are natives of Darke Co. They have four children—three sons and one daughter.

GEORGE N. NOGGLE, Mayor and Justice of the Peace ; P. O. New Madison. The subject of this sketch is a member of a pioneer family ; he is a son of John Noggle, a native of Ohio, who came with his parents from Fairfield Co. to Darke Co. about 1816, and at the age of 22 entered 80 acres of land in Butler Township, cleared and improved the same, owned and farmed different tracts in this county until, by his energy and industry, he owned upward of 300 acres of well-improved land, which he divided to his children, and in 1870 removed to New Madison, where both he and his wife died ; his decease occurred July 9, 1870 ; hers in February, 1875 ; his wife's maiden name was Elizabeth Drulinger ; she was born in North Carolina, and came with her parents to Darke Co. at an early day. Geo. N. Noggle was born in Butler Township Oct. 3, 1847. He lived with his parents until their death ; after he was grown up his occupation varied, sometimes farming, teaching, and sometimes clerking, until 1866, when he engaged in the grocery and provision trade in New Madison ; was elected Justice of the Peace in 1870, which office he still holds, having been re-elected in 1879. Mr. Noggle also holds the office of Mayor. He was married Jan. 5, 1871, to Sally Wagoner, an accomplished young lady of New Paris, Preble Co. Mr. and Mrs. Noggle are respected and useful members of society.





**MICHAEL NOGGLE**, farmer, Sec. 3 ; P. O. New Madison ; one of the old residents of Darke Co., having been born in Neave Township Jan. 11, 1819. His parents first settled in Fairfield Co. in 1812, moved to Darke Co. in 1816 ; first settling in Neave Township, and afterward on Sec. 15, Harrison Township, where the subject of this sketch was reared, married, and lived until after the death of his parents. Jan. 16, 1840, he was married to Mary Mote ; she was born in Harrison Township June 14, 1821, her parents, Jonathan and Susanna (Kistler) Mote, came to Ohio and settled in Harrison Township about 1816. Mr. and Mrs. Noggle commenced life on his father's farm in a cabin with a mud chimney, which he built ; afterward made a purchase of some land in Wabash Township, built a cabin and made a small clearing ; but his father, desiring to quit farming, prevailed on him to return to the old place, his parents living with him until their death. His father died at the age of 78 ; his mother lived to be 87 years of age. After a residence of about seventeen years here, in which many improvements were made and some additions to the farm, they sold out, and purchased the farm in Sec. 11, which their son George now owns, and afterward purchased the farm in Sec. 3, where they now reside. They have endured many hardships, which would have disheartened less courageous or less resolute people, and can relate many interesting incidents connected with the early settlement and growth of civilization in Darke Co. ; they have, from a commencement in a log cabin without means or education, advanced steadily until now ; after having divided more than \$20,000 in money, land and other property between his children. Mr. Noggle still owns 113 acres of choice land in Sec. 3, with improvements which are an ornament to the community and a credit and satisfaction to himself and family. Inside the house, where his matronly wife presides, is peace and plenty, served with love and prudence. Mr. and Mrs. Noggle are the parents of seven children—Phœbe J., Alfred, Ephraim, George M., David, Susanna and Jonathan ; the first and last are dead.

**A. L. NORTHROP**, farmer, Sec. 13 ; P. O. New Madison.

**C. W. M. OTWELL**, M. D., physician, New Madison, Ohio ; was born in Williamsburg, Wayne Co., Ind., March 4, 1837, the day Martin Van Buren was inaugurated President of the United States ; he is a son of Curtis Otwell, M. D., whose biography appears in this work ; when 15 years of age, he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware ; after a four years' course there, he commenced the study of medicine in his father's office in Greenville ; three years later, he attended a course of lectures at the State University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and returned to Greenville a short time before the breaking-out of the rebellion. When the call was made for troops, he enlisted in the 11th O. V. L. as a private, but received almost immediate promotion in the medical department ; at the end of the three months' term he returned to Greenville, but soon enlisted again as a private, and was again promoted, this time to Hospital Steward, and continued such, although doing the work of Assistant Surgeon most of the time, until the expiration of his term, when he returned to Greenville ; his father and brother having gone into the service, he took charge of the office and practice of Otwell & Son ; he continued practicing at Greenville until July, 1867 ; he then began practice alone at Otwell's Mills ; in October of the following year he returned to New Madison, where he has since resided and enjoyed a large practice, and is now doing his share of business, having become a fixture and almost a necessity to the citizens of that vicinity. He was married July 14, 1867, to Sarah A. Hecker ; she was born in Pennsylvania Feb. 16, 1838 ; is the daughter of Jacob Hecker, of Neave Township, and was 12 years of age when her parents came to Darke Co., being one of a large family, she studiously improved her mind and supported herself and helped support the family by teaching. They have three children—Luella, Jerold A. and Curtis W.

**WILLIAM POLLY**, retired farmer, Sec. 7 ; P. O. Hollandsburg, Ohio. An old resident of Harrison Township ; was born in Butler Co., Ohio, Jan. 15, 1807 ; son of William Polly, who came to Harrison Township in 1818, and settled a little





south of where the son now resides ; remained on the place until his death, which occurred in 1846 or 1847 : only two of his children became permanent residents of Darke County, viz.: William, who is the subject of this sketch, and an older brother. William was married July 13, 1829, to Miss Edee, daughter of Elihu Harland, a pioneer who settled just over the line in Indiana ; soon after their marriage he purchased the farm upon which he now resides ; she died here Dec. 12, 1832, having borne him two children—Annie (now Mrs. J. Gift, of Union City, Ind.), and Betsy, deceased. March 22, 1835, he was again married, to Mary Immel, a native of Pennsylvania, who was born April 24, 1815 ; they are the parents of the following children, viz.: Elihu, who now resides about one-half mile south of his father, and is a substantial and respected citizen ; Catharine, now Mrs. A. J. Moore ; Henry V., who now resides near Union City, Ind. ; Priscilla, deceased ; Joseph W., now a teacher in Portland, Ind. ; Jacob B., now Superintendent of the Public School at Versailles ; James M. resides with his father and has charge of the farm ; Hannah, deceased, and Emma, now Mrs. James Downing, of Randolph Co., Ind. Mr. Polly came to Darke Co. when but 11 years of age, and has been a continuous resident of the same for upward of sixty years, and during all this time has been a contributor toward the improvement of the county materially, intellectually and morally ; both he and his wife have been consistent and active members of the Disciple Church from their youth, and each of their children are members of one branch of the Christian church ; his son-in-law, A. J. Moore and wife, reside in Sec. 8 ; he was born in Wayne Co., Ind., Dec. 16, 1831, and was married to Miss Catharine Polly Feb. 20, 1859 ; they are the parents of six children. Mr. Moore and wife are both worthy members of the Christian Church ; he is one of the Deacons of the Church at Hollansburg. Thus it will be seen that Mr. Polly has raised a large family, all of whom, now living, are useful members of society. Although now in his 73d year, and having suffered the extirpation of his left eye last May, he is enjoying very good health, and is an intelligent, agreeable Christian gentleman, and a respected citizen.

DAVID PUTERBAUGH, farmer, Sec. 7 ; P. O. New Madison ; a son of Abraham Puterbaugh, an old settler of German Township ; the subject of this sketch was born in German Township Sept. 8, 1851 ; remained at home with his parents, receiving such education as the common-schools afforded, until Oct. 26, 1872. He was married to Margaret Mackey ; she was born in Jay Co., Ind. March 15, 1851 ; after his marriage, he rented a house and a part of his father's farm, where they remained until the spring of 1878 ; they then removed to the farm where they now live ; they have four children, viz., Mary E., Martha J., George D. A. and Harvey C. Mr. Puterbaugh, though a young man, is a lifetime-resident of Darke Co., and will probably remain a resident of Butler Township.

DANIEL REIGLE (retired) ; P. O. New Madison ; was born in Berks Co., Penn., July 3, 1805 ; remained with his parents on a farm until of age, having almost no educational advantages ; when about 14 years old, he commenced to wagon from Hamburg to Philadelphia, Penn. ; when of age, he commenced for himself by hiring to a collier ; he soon became "boss collier," and continued in this business in different parts of Pennsylvania until 1831, when he removed to Belmont Co., Ohio, where he leased a piece of ground, and commenced raising tobacco ; in 1833, he removed to Fairfield Co. ; here he purchased 55 acres of land, and resumed the culture of tobacco ; in 1839, he went to Adams Co., Ind., where he purchased 800 acres of land, but the country was so wild and backward about settling up that he could not content himself, and, leaving his land, he returned to Ohio ; in February, 1841, he purchased 164 acres of land in Butler Township, for \$800, which he improved, and in 1868, sold for \$10,000 ; in 1863, he purchased 6 acres in New Madison, upon which he built, and removed there the following year, where he has since lived, enjoying in a quiet way the benefits of his quite large accumulations, all of which he came to by his own exertions, having, when he crossed the Ohio River (to use his own expression), "Thirty-five





dollars in money, one wife, two guns and one dog." Mr. Reigle was commissioner of Darke Co. for two terms, being elected by ninety-four votes, and re-elected by over three hundred; the County Infirmary was built during his commissionership. He was married to Sarah Bitler, in Pennsylvania, in 1827; they had ten children, four of whom are living—Samuel B., Daniel, Catharine A. (now Mrs. Humbert), and Sarah A.; the names of the deceased are, George, Mary E., Rebecca A., Charles A., Solomon and Joseph W. S. Mrs. Reigle's death occurred in New Madison, June 28, 1872. His marriage with Mrs. Lydia A. Simpson-Burr was celebrated in Eaton, Ohio, Dec. 19, 1872; Lydia Simpson-Burr is the mother of two children—William S. (deceased), and Orlando, now living in Preble Co.

**ALMIRA (LAWRENCE) ROBERTS.** New Madison; widow of the late Samuel R. Roberts, whose decease occurred Oct. 28, 1874; Mr. and Mrs. Roberts were born in Darke County—he Feb. 28, 1827, and she Dec. 19, 1827; their marriage was celebrated in Harrison Township Dec. 28, 1854, and soon after, they commenced housekeeping in the house in which the widow and family now live; he owned an interest in the steam saw-mill, of which he in a few years became sole proprietor, and continued to own and operate until a short time before his death, it took fire and was burned; he being very sick at the time, the shock was too much for his weakened nerves, and he never recovered; Mr. Roberts was a quiet and substantial citizen, specially kind to his family, and won the esteem of all; he left a family of three children—Eldora (now Mrs. Charles B. Whitley), Luanna and Jennie M.; the two latter are still at home with their mother.

**SOLOMON ROYER,** farmer; P. O. New Madison.

**CLINTON RUSH,** proprietor City Hotel and Livery Stable, New Madison; was born in Harrison Township Oct. 30, 1831; he is a son of John Rush, who was one of the early settlers of Darke County; Mr. Rush resided with his parents in Harrison Township until 1855, when he purchased a farm in Butler Township, where he lived the following four years; he then removed to Harrison Township; having purchased a part of the old homestead, he remained for nine years, then sold out and again purchased in Butler Township, where he resided six years, then removed to German Township, where he lived three years, when he purchased the City Hotel property, where he now lives, doing a very satisfactory business; Mr. Rush held the office of Justice of the Peace six years in Butler Township, and three years in Harrison; he was married Feb. 22, 1855, to Rebecca J., daughter of John Tittle, of Preble County; they are the parents of four children—John F., Rachel A., Mary E. and Charles A., the second and last being deceased.

**EMILY (LAWRENCE) SNODGRASS.** New Madison; daughter of Rile Lawrence, an old settler of Harrison Township, and widow of the late Joseph G. Snodgrass, who was born in Preble County March 7, 1830; she was born in Darke County July 6, 1835; they were married July 27, —, at the home of her parents in Harrison Township; after living in Preble County about one year, they removed to New Madison, where she has lived ever since his decease, occurring here Dec. 6, 1877; immediately after coming to New Madison, Mr. Snodgrass engaged in a tannery, of which he soon became owner and proprietor, and thus became identified with the business interests of the town, and was soon called upon to fill places of public trust, being elected Justice of the Peace and Mayor of the town, holding the latter office two successive terms, his decease occurring before the expiration of the last term; he was the father of three children—Olive M., Mary M. and Eliza R., all of whom are now living with their widowed mother, he having left them in comfortable circumstances. Mr. Snodgrass was one of those who answered to the call of his country; he enlisted in the 110th O. V. I., and was made Captain of Co. H, in which capacity he served until the final surrender; was in several engagements, once wounded and once taken prisoner, but was soon exchanged and returned to the command of his company; after his return to private life, on account of a cancer, he was obliged to suffer the extirpation of his left eye-ball about six months previous to his death.





ANDERSON SPENCER, farmer, Sec. 16; P. O. New Madison.

L. B. STEPHENS, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 13; P. O. New Madison one of those who, although left alone in the world, has nevertheless become a substantial citizen; was born in Connecticut Jan. 29, 1812; his father died when he was in his infancy, and his mother emigrated to Ohio when he was about 3 years of age, leaving him with his grandfather, where he remained until 15 years old; he then struck out for himself, commencing by learning the comb-maker's trade, at which he afterward worked in New York City and Cincinnati, Ohio; he came to New Madison in the fall of 1837, and commenced wagoning from here to Cincinnati; he continued to wagon most of the time until the iron horse supplanted him; during this time, he also kept "public house" in New Madison one year; he had been economical, and wisely invested his savings in a piece of land, and, when wagoning no longer paid, he removed to his farm, and has continued farming ever since, owning different tracts of land, and of late giving considerable attention to stock-raising. Mr. Stephens now owns several houses and lots in New Madison, and 80 acres of land adjoining the corporation, upon which he now resides. He was married in Cincinnati to Amy Miles Oct. 6, 1833; they are the parents of five children, three of whom are now living, viz., William, Minerva, now Mrs. David Price, of Montgomery Co., and Alfred; the two deceased are Augustus and George.

JESSE SWISHER, retired; P. O. New Madison; was born in Preble Co., Ohio, March 2, 1807; his father, William Swisher, was a native of Pennsylvania, but came to Preble Co. at an early day; Jesse remained at home during his minority, having very little opportunity to attend school; when about 23 years of age, he purchased a quarter-section of land in Preble Co. Was united in marriage with Rachael Paddock June 2, 1831; she was also born in Preble Co.; they commenced life together on his farm, where they continued to reside until 1838; they removed to Union Co., Ind., where he purchased a farm on the Whitewater; here they remained about twelve years, then returned to Preble Co., Ohio, and purchased about 900 acres of land, and went into stock-raising on a large scale; this he continued till 1867, when he sold out and removed to New Madison, and engaged in the dry-goods business, at the same time buying grain and hogs, which he continued until 1875, when he retired, his son, Robert Swisher, being his successor. Mr. Swisher, while a very active citizen, has also been a very quiet, unassuming man, a good manager, and quite successful, whether as a farmer, stock-raiser, or merchant. Has raised a large family, and started each liberally, and is still in possession of abundant means for himself. Mr. and Mrs. Swisher are the parents of ten children, all of whom lived to grow to manhood and womanhood; eight of them are still living, viz., Henry, Robert, William, Samuel, Minerva, now Mrs. McQuinney, of Preble Co.; Cynthia, now Mrs. George Scarce; Sarah E., now Mrs. Templeton, of Preble Co.; Samantha, now Mrs. L. R. Kelly, of Richmond, Ind.; and Angeline, now Mrs. William Carney, of Shelby Co., Ind.; the names of the deceased are Annie (Swisher) McQuinney and William.

ROBERT SWISHER, grain and stock-dealer, New Madison; was born in Preble Co., Dec. 21, 1845; he came to New Madison when 23 years of age, and engaged in the dry-goods trade, also buying grain; in 1877, he sold his interest in the dry-goods trade and has since devoted his entire attention to the grain and stock business. Mr. Swisher was married to Miranda Banks at the home of her mother in Richmond Ind., April 6, 1869. They have four children—Cora, Olive, Viola and Warren, the first being deceased. Mr. Swisher, although a young man, has already become one of the business men of New Madison.

J. H. THOMAS, dentist, New Madison; the subject of this sketch is the son of J. H. Thomas, M. D., who was a graduate of the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, and came from Oxford, Ohio, to Darke Co., in 1843, and practiced in this county most of the time for thirty-three years; he was somewhat of a rover, but practiced at New Madison for fifteen successive years during his first res-





dence, and five years each at two other periods. His decease occurred at Palestine Oct. 25, 1876. J. H. was born in New Madison in 1851; he received the benefit of such educational advantages as the common-school afforded; during his youth, he worked on a farm by the month in summer, and attended school in winter until 19 years of age, the last summer being spent in Michigan; in the fall of 1870, he began to learn dentistry, at which he has been engaged ever since; he has worked in Bradford Junction, Covington, Miami Co., Winchester, Ind., Galion, Decatur and Buchanan, Mich.; at some of these places he had an office, and at others worked for more experienced dentists, which has given him advantages enjoyed by but few dentists of his age; he resumed dentistry in New Madison in 1877, first working by the piece for his uncle S. A. Thomas; afterward bought his uncle out and located permanently; after seven years of practice and diversified experience, is gradually building up a good business; unlike most young men operating in the country towns, he has experience in his work, as well as knowledge of material, and where to get his supplies so as to secure the best at the lowest possible price; he is thus prepared to do first-class work at prices which are inadequate for the more aristocratic city dentists.

WILLIAM THOMAS, farmer, P. O. New Madison; resides on Sec. 23. The history of Harrison Township would be incomplete without a sketch of the Thomas family; William is a son of Jonathan Thomas, who was one of a family of thirteen children, all of whom grew to manhood and womanhood, and all but one were married and raised a family; he was born in Pennsylvania, Oct. 8, 1792, raised in Virginia, and came to Darke Co. in 1816, "entered" one-fourth of Sec. 24, Harrison Township, in connection with his brother Solomon, who is now a resident of Preble Co., and 90 years of age. Jonathan was married to Agnes McClure Sept. 9, 1819; she was born in Kentucky Dec. 23, 1800, and came to Darke Co. with her parents, who were the first settlers of Harrison Township; about a year after their marriage, they removed to Sec. 23, the place where William now lives; William was born, raised, and now lives on the old homestead; his birth occurred March 30, 1830; he was married to Julia Brodrick Feb. 26, 1852; she was born in Darke Co. April 7, 1834; her parents settled in Harrison Township in 1822; soon after their marriage, they commenced life on a farm in Sec. 22, where they lived about 14 years, then purchased and removed to the old homestead, where they have lived ever since; the farm consists of 239 acres, in a good state of cultivation, with fine improvements. Mr. Thomas is a self-made man, and has contributed his share to the substantial growth and improvement of Harrison Township; is a quiet, unassuming man, respected by all; in politics, is a Republican. His father, who is now 87 years of age, and quite feeble, has his home with and is cared for by, William and his kind-hearted wife, his mother having died Sept. 24, 1877, at his sister's; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are the parents of seven children, five of whom are now living, viz.: Florence A., now Mrs. Thomas Eubanks, of New Madison; Roscoe E., Willie L., Oliver H. and Frank E.; all except the oldest are at home; the names of the deceased are Horace W. and Eugene E.

NEHEMIAH TOWNSEND, merchant, New Madison; the subject of this sketch, now a successful merchant of New Madison, was born in Pike Co., Ohio, July 4, 1828; his father died when he was but 13 years of age; in 1844, he removed with his mother, one brother and three sisters, to Greenfield, Highland Co., Ohio, where they resided several years; in 1849, they removed to Centerville, Wayne Co., Ind., and in 1851 he removed to New Westville, Preble Co., Ohio, where he remained until the fall of 1858, when he came to New Madison, and has resided here ever since. Mr. Townsend's life has been somewhat checkered, and yet, on the whole, quite successful; he learned the tailor's trade when a boy and continued to work at it until after his marriage with Miss Sarah A. Bowen, which occurred Oct. 11, 1852; after his marriage, he engaged in merchandising, first in Preble Co., and when he came to New Madison he started a general merchandise store, which he is still conducting with gratifying success. He is a quiet and





respected citizen, an intelligent and agreeable gentleman. Mr. and Mrs. Townsend are the parents of six children, three are living, viz.: Ella V., Ida M. and Will A.; the names of the deceased are Sarah E., Mary A. and Charles O.; the three living are all at home.

EDWARD M. WALKER, deceased; the oldest of the Walker brothers was born in Maryland Feb. 26, 1815; his parents came to Darke Co. when he was 15 years of age; settled first in Butler Township and afterward in Harrison, on the farm Edward afterward owned, and where he and his father and mother all died, and his widow now resides; his father's death occurred Jan. 5, 1840, and he then took charge of the farm and managed the business affairs of the family. May 29, 1844, he was married to Isabella C. Miller, after which they took charge of the house, and his mother and younger brothers and sisters lived with them. His mother's death occurred Nov. 26, 1857. Edward M. and Isabella C. Walker were the parents of eight children—Joseph C., born June 29, 1845, died Nov. 24, 1860; Margaret, born Sept. 4, 1847, married to A. G. Trace, Dec. 26, 1872, died Sept. 17, 1873; Hannah R., born Nov. 30, 1849, died April 20, 1874; Nancy J., born Feb. 12, 1852; Daniel, born March 26, 1854, died Sept. 28, 1855; John B. W., born July 1, 1856, died Nov. 25, 1860; Thos. M. born Dec. 26, 1858, and Isabella C., born June 17, 1861. Mrs. Walker died June 26, 1861. Jan. 4, 1866, Mr. Walker was married to Miss Margaret Cameron, also a native of Maryland, born March 4, 1831; she always lived in Baltimore previous to her marriage but visited friends in Darke Co. at different times, and became acquainted with Mr. Walker and married him. They had a son, born March 17, 1867. Mr. Walker was a stirring, energetic man, and, in connection with his brothers, Christopher and Daniel, dealt quite extensively in hogs, shipping many thousands to the Eastern markets during the war period. In politics, he was a lifelong Democrat, and a man of considerable political influence; was twice elected to represent his county in the State Legislature. When the war broke out, he took an active part in raising volunteers. In 1870, the old home was burned, and in the following year he built a handsome residence on the old site, where his widow and surviving children now reside. His death occurred Dec. 2, 1879. Mrs. Walker is an intelligent, social lady, and feels deeply the loss of her lamented husband.

DANIEL WALKER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 33; P. O. Wiley Station, was born in Baltimore Co., Md., Nov. 20, 1817; son of Christopher and Hannah Walker, who came to Darke Co., settling first in Butler Township and afterward in Harrison, where their decease occurred—his in 1840, and hers in 1857. The subject of this sketch remained at home until 1842, when he was married to Miss Nancy, daughter of Elam and Mary Purviance; she was born in Preble Co. Dec. 4, 1818; they first settled in Preble Co., and after twelve years' residence sold out and purchased and removed to the farm on which they now reside. Mr. Walker has made and lost a large amount of money during his residence here, having dealt quite extensively, for several seasons, in hogs. He now owns 160 acres in Sec. 34; also one tract of 50 acres, and one of 57, in Preble Co. besides the home place, which consists of 257 acres of excellent land, finely improved, his house and yard being a model for neatness and beauty. He is also a stockholder of the Farmers' National Bank of Greenville.

CHRISTOPHER C. WALKER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 23; P. O. New Madison. Of the successful farmers of Harrison Township, Mr. C. C. Walker is probably the most extensive stock-raiser; he makes a specialty of fine cattle and Poland-China hogs; he was born in Baltimore County, Md., Aug. 23, 1829, and brought to Darke County by his parents, Christopher and Hannah (Marshall) Walker; they first settled in Butler Township; he remained at home until after he became 21 years of age, receiving such an education as an attendance of two to three months in the year at the common schools of that day would afford. In 1851, he entered as equal partner in a store at Braffetttsville, and soon afterward his brother Daniel purchased the other half, and they continued the business.





together about seven years. Jan. 27, 1854. he was united in marriage with Miss Mary C., daughter of Thomas C. and Nancy Brawley, natives of Virginia and pioneers of Darke County; Miss Mary was born in Harrison Township Oct. 20, 1834; they first kept house in Braffetttsville; in 1858, Mr. Walker became dissatisfied with his store experience, sold out the store, and they removed to a farm near Braffetttsville; in 1862, he purchased and they removed to the farm upon which they now reside; from 1862 to 1866, he was engaged with his brothers Edwin and Daniel in buying and shipping hogs, but the decline in price caused them to lose heavily, and they abandoned it, and he has since devoted himself to farming and raising stock, the latter being a specialty; during the last year, he has erected a fine barn, 60x48 feet, with an L 54x40 feet, the whole conveniently arranged for the accommodation of stock; this barn needs only to be seen to be appreciated; it is the best the writer ever saw on a farm. Mr. and Mrs. Walker are the parents of nine children, viz.: Nellie, born April 29, 1855; Lon C., Feb. 27, 1857; Minnie, Oct. 28, 1858; Douglas, May 21, 1860; Thomas C., Jan. 20, 1862, died Aug. 7, 1862; Harry G., born June 29, 1863; Nancy, April 17, 1865; a daughter born Dec. 15 and died Dec. 29, 1867; and Mary, born Dec. 6, 1868. Their family, with two exceptions are grown to manhood and womanhood, and are still under the paternal roof. Mr. Walker now owns 75 acres in Preble County and 150 in Harrison Township, besides the home farm of 400 acres; his residence is situated on an eminence bordering the beautiful little valley of East Fork, a branch of the White-water River; this branch runs through a portion of the farm and affords excellent and abundant water for his stock. Mr. and Mrs. Walker are sociable, agreeable people, and highly respectable citizens.

JACOB WALKER, farmer, Sec. 15; P. O. New Madison.

MRS. JANE WHITE, proprietress of hotel; P. O. Hollandsburg; was born near Hollandsburg March 6, 1832; is the daughter of James Stewart, who is now a resident of Wayne Co., Ind; her mother's death occurred when Jane was but 14 years of age; has always been a resident of Darke Co. Was married to Benjamin S. Tillson Sept. 16, 1849: his decease occurred March 6, 1864; they were the parents of two children, viz.: Rebecca A., born March 6, 1851, now living with her mother, and Laura A., born March 26, 1853, married to J. R. Hill Nov. 2, 1872, and died Sept. 24, 1875. Mrs. Tillson was married to John White June 10, 1866; his death occurred March 8, 1870, in the same residence in which Mr. Tillson's death occurred six years previous. They had one child, viz.: Vandalia, born Aug. 12, 1867; now resides with his mother. Mrs. White remained at the old homestead until December 1873, when she purchased a residence in and removed to Hollandsburg, where she engaged in millinery a short time: afterward converted her residence into a hotel, which she is now conducting with reasonable success. Mrs. White is a very intelligent lady and possesses considerable business ability.

JAMES M. WILLIAMS, M. D., physician, Hollandsburg, Ohio. Among the successful physicians of Harrison Township is Dr. Williams. He was born in Virginia Dec. 11, 1842; was brought to Montgomery Co., Ohio, by his parents in the year 1847, and grew to manhood there, receiving a good common-school education; when 18 years of age, he began teaching, and soon after to read medicine: afterward attended lectures and graduated at the Eclectic Medical Institute at Cincinnati May 21, 1869, and immediately began practice; he first practiced in Palestine, German Township; in January, 1871, he removed to Hollandsburg, where he has since continued the practice of his profession. Dr. Williams is entitled to the appellation of a self-made man, having earned by teaching the means to secure his medical education; he started in practice with nothing but his knowledge, skill and industry to rely upon, and has persevered under difficulties until he now has a very satisfactory and constantly growing practice. His marriage with Harriet E. Renner, of Preble Co., was solemnized March 3, 1864; she was born in Preble Co. Sept. 3, 1846. They are the parents of five children, four of whom





are now living, viz.: Gladus A., Samuel R., Wm. C. and Liston V.; the name of the deceased was Lucilla G.

ECKHART WORCH, merchant tailor, New Madison; one of the old, reliable, substantial business men of New Madison; was born in Schlierbach, Germany, in 1821; came to America in 1842; landing at New York, he started West by boat, when about eleven miles from Columbus, Ohio, his money being exhausted, he was compelled to leave the boat; he made his way the best he could to Dayton where his genial ways and perseverance soon won friends and secured employment after a stay of about twelve years in Dayton, during which he had acquired a knowledge of business, and also become able to transact business in either English, German or Hebrew, and acquired a reputation for industry and integrity, which he has never lost, and which has been of great service to him during the years in which he has been engaged in business, he came to New Madison in 1853; began the merchant tailoring business in 1854, and has continued in it ever since, having a growing and profitable trade; he now has a good stock of clothing and gents' furnishing goods, notions, etc., and is still an active, wide-awake business man; he was prominent in organizing the Reformed Church here, and is still an active supporter of the Gospel. A review of his life is not out of place here: Starting in this country a "raw Dutchman" without experience, money or friends; in twelve years, he had gained such a knowledge of language and business, and such a reputation for industry and integrity, that a well-known firm in Cincinnati offered without solicitation to sell him any amount of goods he needed, and allow him to pay for them when sold. The letter in which this offer was made was written in German, and has been preserved by him, and he now feels a just pride in showing it to friends. From this start, secured by his active and persevering efforts while in the employ of others, he has gradually risen to a prominent business man, at the same time developing a character as a merchant and Christian citizen which is as creditable as it is honorable; he now occupies the corner which was owned and occupied by that most excellent pioneer citizen, Ernestus Putman, the founder, and in its early day, the fosterer of New Madison. Mr. Worch has been twice married. His marriage with Petronella Frederick was celebrated in Dayton, July 1, 1846; she was also a native of Germany, born in Dittlesheim, Canton of Worms, in 1821; her death occurred in New Madison, in 1874; she was a consistent Christian woman, a kind mother and an affectionate wife; they had seven sons, four are now living, viz.: Franklin H., now a resident of Cincinnati; Charles D., a telegraph operator; Lewis A., now learning the trade of jeweler in Richmond, Ind., and Philip F., who assists his father in the store. The marriage of Mr. Worch and Mrs. Sarah (Wagner) Bowman, was celebrated Jan. 22, 1880; she is the daughter of William Wagner, of German Township, and was married to Jacob Bowman, whose death occurred in 1873.

MICHAEL ZEECK, blacksmith and edged-tool manufacturer, New Madison. One of the old residents of Harrison Township; he is the son of Adam and Mary (Shaffer) Zeeck, natives of Virginia; his grandfathers, on both the father's and mother's side, came from Germany, and were soldiers in the Revolution: the subject of this sketch was born in Wayne Co., Ind., Feb. 22, 1814; during his minority he learned the blacksmith's trade of his father, who made a specialty of edged-tool manufacturing; in 1835, he came to New Madison, opened a shop, and has lived here ever since; by industry and economy, he has succeeded in accumulating considerable property. He was married Oct. 25, 1838, to Fanny, daughter of John and Jane (Ballard) Beard, who were early settlers of Butler Township; she was born Oct. 2, 1822; her death occurred in 1879, after a severe and protracted illness, during which her husband devoted almost his entire time to her care and attention to her wants; Mr. and Mrs. Zeeck were the parents of eight children, six of whom are living, viz., Mary J., Rebecca B., Sarah P., George A., Abigail L. and John A.; the names of the deceased are Catherine E. and Nancy A. Mr. Zeeck has taken quite an interest in the public affairs of his county, and has been



somewhat prominent ; he has served as Commissioner two terms, and held town or township offices, either one or both, almost constantly since he first became a citizen of New Madison, in 1835 ; was one of the petitioners for the incorporation of the town, and afterward served in nearly every one of the different town offices.

## NEAVE TOWNSHIP.

NOAH ARNOLD, farmer ; P. O. Jaysville ; another of the few remaining early settlers of Darke Co. : is the son of William Arnold, who was a brother of Moses, and was born in South Carolina, and came to Darke Co. in 1816 ; entered 332 acres in Secs. 11 and 32, of Greenville Township, which he improved and resided on for sixty years, and it is now the property of his children and still undivided. The subject of this sketch was born in Warren Co. Feb. 6, 1816, about six weeks before his parents came to Darke Co., and he has resided in this county ever since he first entered it, living on the farm continuously until he was 23 years of age ; then tried merchandising a short time, but not being pleased with the business, resumed farming, which he has continued ever since ; has been an enterprising and useful citizen ; was Justice of the Peace nine years, and has been a Notary Public for the past twenty years ; is still active in both public and private enterprises ; was one of the charter members of the Farmers' National Bank of Greenville, and is one of the present Board of Directors ; has charge of his father's old homestead, besides superintending his own homestead, which contains 240 acres in an advanced state of cultivation, with fine improvements ; he has acted on the maxim, "If a man would have a good home, let him have a good wife, for it is certain he has both." He was married in 1839 to Emily Stingley, daughter of George and Barbara Stingley, who were early settlers of German Township ; her death occurred in 1848 ; they had four children—Isaac N., Mary J., Effie A. and George ; Isaac was a soldier in the late war, and lost an arm at Atlanta ; has been in the employment of the Treasury Department at Washington for several years ; Mary J. is now the wife of H. N. Arnold, of Greenville ; Effie A. is now Mrs. L. E. Chenoweth, of Greenville, and George is married and a resident of Nebraska. Mr. Arnold was again married, April 11, 1850, to Martha (Larimore-Banfield) Bierly, daughter of Hugh and Nancy (Martin) Larimore, who came from Pennsylvania in 1817, and settled in the Arnold neighborhood, and are now both deceased ; Martha was twice previously married ; her first husband, John Banfield, was killed by a falling tree, while both were passing through the woods by a bridle-path during a storm ; she escaped unhurt, although the horse upon which she was mounted was quite severely injured. Mr. and Mrs. Arnold have one child—Margaret E., now Mrs. William H. H. McCool, railroad agent and merchant at Jaysville.

GEORGE ARNOLD, retired farmer ; P. O. Jaysville ; one of the oldest residents of Neave Township now living ; he was born in South Carolina in 1800, and was eighty years of age on the 1st day of March ; his father's name was Moses, and he was a native of North Carolina, and a resident of South Carolina from the time of the Revolution until 1807 ; was married there to Rachel Lynch, and removed to Ohio, settling in Warren Co. ; in the fall of 1815 or spring of 1816, he came to Darke Co., prospecting, and selected a quarter-section in Sec. 13, which he entered, and in the fall of 1816, George, then a young lad, in company with his brothers Aaron and David, and in company with their oldest sister Lydia, who afterward became the wife of James Townsend, came to this land and erected three cabins, one for the father and one for each of the two older boys, who were both then married ; this tract was divided between the father and two sons ; in the following spring, the father and David removed their families into the cabins.





and began the work of making a home in this then wilderness, there being no house nearer than two miles, but plenty of Indians, and more wolves and bears and a few panthers; deer were then more plentiful and easier found than are squirrels now; there was no road excepting the Milton road, via which they came, cutting their own road from that to their cabins; it is difficult to imagine that such was the condition of this section within the life of one generation, and very few people have lived to see so great improvements as have been made within the lifetime of this venerable resident. George was married in Warren Co., Feb. 26, 1820, to Mary Dines, daughter of Chambers and Millie (Cole) Dines; she was born in Kentucky Nov. 4, 1800, and her parents removed to Warren Co. when she was quite young. Mr. and Mrs. George Arnold came to Darke Co. soon after their marriage, and began life here in pioneer style; they now reside in a brick dwelling, which stands in the same yard in which stood the cabin in which they first kept house; they having passed through the hardships, toils and privations of pioneer life, and taken part in the improvements of the past half-century, during the latter half of which there has been a remarkably rapid development and improvement of the county, both public and private. They have raised a family of five children, one son and four daughters, viz., Amelia (who is now Mrs. Michael Floyd, and resides in Kansas), Lydia (who is now Mrs. Henry Houk, and resides in Missouri), Rachel (now deceased, was Mrs. Jacob Shiverdecker, and resided in Darke Co.), Mary (also deceased, was the wife of Samuel Schlechty), John C. is the only son: was born in 1826, and grew to manhood here, during the days of hard work and little education. He was married in 1847, to Mary E. daughter of William and Maria (Heath) Shepherd; her mother, now a widow, resides in Twin Township. Mr. J. C. Arnold, with the exception of about five years, has always resided on the farm where he was born and now resides, and is now an old resident of Darke Co.; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Arnold have a family of nine children—George W., Mary M., John H., Rachel J., Millie S., Winfield, Amanda E., Martha and Charles M. His aged parents also reside with them, and having served the world in their day and generation, now quietly await the call to the spirit land.

W. N. BROWN, farmer; P. O. Delisle. Another life resident of Darke Co. is a son of Caleb, and grandson of Phillip Brown; Phillip was a native of Tennessee, and married into a family by the name of Schleigar, and was one of the first settlers of this neighborhood; Caleb was then a boy; after he grew up he married Mary, daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Neal) Miller, residents of Union Co., Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Brown resided on an 80-acre tract in Sec. 36; he was a leading and useful citizen; his house, which was a hewn-log structure, was considered above the average, and was used for several years for church services; he and his wife both lived to be nearly 90 years of age; Mr. and Mrs. Caleb Brown resided on an 80-acre tract in the same section adjoining his father's; his death occurred in 1876, he being 70 years of age; his widow, now about 70, lives with her son at the old homestead. The subject of this sketch was born in 1839, on the farm where he now resides and has resided all his life; he now has about 200 acres in Sec. 36, including both the tracts owned by his father and grandfather; thus the memories and labors of two generations past cluster around this homestead. Mr. Brown was married in 1863, to Sarah Judy, daughter of David Judy; her death occurred in 1873; they had two children, one living, Frank. Mr. Brown's marriage with Miss Elnora Bell Byers, was celebrated Dec. 6, 1879.

W. S. DUNN, farmer; P. O. Jaysville; is the son of Isaac and Julia A. (McGrew) Dunn; he was a native of Kentucky, and of French descent; she was of Irish descent, and a native of Virginia; they were married in Butler Co., Ohio, and came to Darke Co. soon after the treaty of Fort Greenville, and were the first family that ventured into the wilderness west of Greenville after the war. Here the subject of this sketch was born in 1817, and here he lived until he was 16 years of age; then his parents removed to Randolph Co., Ind.; he remained with





his parents until 21, then returned to Darke Co., and worked in the vicinity of Coal Town about three years and partially learned the wagon-maker's trade. About this time, a little incident occurred which was the occasion of his changing his home. He was somewhat of a horse-trader, and made a trade with a Methodist preacher, in which he was badly cheated, and the youngsters of the neighborhood bored him so over being worsted by a preacher, that he straddled the horse and left that neighborhood, and never resided there afterward. He finished his apprenticeship at wagon-making in Palestine, and then went to Butler Co., and was married there in 1855 to Matilda, daughter of Isaac and Mary Watson. After his marriage, Mr. Dunn resumed farming, and has continued farming ever since, first renting, and, after five years he purchased a farm in Butler Co., where he remained until 1876, when he sold out in Butler Co. and purchased and removed to the farm in Sec. 13, Neave Township, where he now resides with his only son, who has charge of the farm. Mr. Dunn was one of a family of twelve children: his parents came into the wilderness of Darke Co. poor, and he had to depend upon himself entirely, and has made his property by his own exertions and management, never having received any legacy, except about \$800, which his wife received from her parents. Her decease occurred in Butler Co. Nov. 16, 1874. They had two children—one still-born, and the other a son, Henry H. He was married to Susannah Young, of Preble Co., and now has charge of the home and farm. He has one child—Matilda.

HENRY GEBHART, farmer; P. O. Greenville; is a son of Daniel and Margaret Gebhart, whose biography appears in connection with J. Reickers. The subject of this sketch was born in 1837, on the farm, a part of which is his present home; he remained on the farm with his parents until about 25 years of age; while visiting a cousin in Fountain Co., Ind., they took a notion to see the "West," and went first to Kansas, then to the Black Hills region; also visited different parts of Utah, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, and returned to Darke Co. after an eventful absence of nearly four years, well satisfied to live in Darke Co. He was married, in 1869, to Catherine Billman, daughter of John Billman, whose biography appears in the Harrison Township list; after their marriage, they resided at his old home, his father's death having occurred the same year; after the farm was divided, he built on his portion, where he now resides; he has 63 acres which he is improving and rapidly making into a pleasant home.

C. B. HARTMAN, farmer; P. O. Weaver's Station; a native of Pennsylvania; was born in Lancaster Co. in 1816; is the son of Christian and Ann Hartman; a descendant of the Hares, Brubakers and Kreiders, who were among the very earliest settlers of that part of Pennsylvania. The subject of this sketch grew to manhood on the farm in Pennsylvania; when about 22 years of age, he, in company with four other young men, went West on a trip of adventure and sight-seeing; they traveled over a large portion of the then Western country, saw the Indians in their native wilds, came near starvation on the sand plains, but returned to Pennsylvania after three years' wanderings, satisfied to live in the civilized portions of our country; he came to Ohio in 1856; settled first in Montgomery Co.; came to Darke Co. in 1865, just in time to take part in the public improvements which so suddenly brought this county from the last to the first in the State, in point of improved highways. Mr. Hartman, though not a very old resident, takes a very active interest in public matters, especially politics; he is an active and reliable Democrat and useful citizen. He was married in 1845, to Catherine Immel, a native of Pennsylvania; they had three children—J. A., whose biography appears in the Harrison Township list, Franklin, of Montgomery Co., and Louisa, now Mrs. D. Aucamp, of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Catherine Hartman's death occurred in 1851; his marriage with Catherine O'Donnell was celebrated in 1854; she was a native of Ireland, and came to the United States when quite young; they have nine children—William, Caroline, Ella, Allen D., Clement L. V., Kate, Christian B., George W. and Andrew J.



DAVID HEFFNER, farmer; P. O. Weaver's Station; a native of Pennsylvania, was born in Berks Co. in 1817; his father was a farmer, but David was made teamster as soon as he was old enough to hold the lines, and teamed from the time he was 15 years of age, seventeen years. Jacob Heffner came to Darke Co., with his family, in 1849; David was then single, some called him a bachelor and came with the family; they settled in Neave Township on the farm where George D. Miller now resides. In 1850, David was united in marriage with Miss Ann, daughter of Jonathan, and sister of John Niswonger, whose biography appears in this work; she was born in Pennsylvania, in 1822, and came with her parents to Darke Co., in 1829, and grew to womanhood here, in the days when

"Girls made no great show  
In order to catch a beau,  
But were learned to work tow,  
Spin it and weave in row."

As a sample of woman's occupations in those days. Mrs. Heffner, while a girl at home, spun 1,500 cuts of yarn and wove 300 yards of cloth, from spring to winter, besides helping about the housework. Mr. and Mrs. Heffner have resided in this township ever since they first began housekeeping; came to their present place, just north of Fort Jefferson, in 1872; they have two children, one son and one daughter—Jonathan and Sarah C., now Mrs. L. Wilt, of Butler Township.

JOHN KECKLER, farmer; P. O. Weaver's Station; is a Buckeye by birth, was born in Fairfield Co. in 1826; was raised on a farm and learned the blacksmith's trade when grown, and worked at it several years; came to Darke Co. in 1861; resided in Neave Township; purchased the farm where he now resides in 1871. Nearly all the public improvements made in Darke Co. have been done since his residence here. Mr. Keckler is one of the substantial citizens, and has occupied several public positions of responsibility. His marriage with Catherine Friesner was celebrated in 1851 in Fairfield Co.; they had three children—all now married; two—Ephraim and Elizabeth—are residents of Darke Co. Mrs. Keckler's decease occurred in 1856. Mr. Keckler and Mrs. Julia A. (Dunaway) Reynolds were married in Allen Co., Ohio, May 26, 1859; she was born in Pennsylvania in 1828; her marriage with Geo. Reynolds was celebrated in Wells Co., Ind., Jan. 17, 1851; his death occurred in Allen Co., Ohio, in 1857. Mr. and Mrs. Keckler have five children—Simon B., William H., John W., Emma and James W.; all are still members of the family household.

JOHN LANDIS, farmer; P. O. Delisle; an old resident of Darke Co.; son of Jacob Landis, who settled in Darke Co. in 1828, on the farm where Joshua Townsend, whose biography appears in this work, now resides; the old block-house built there during the Indian difficulties, was still there in good condition, and John remembers sleeping in it repeatedly; his father used it for a loom-house during the days of "home-spun" clothing. The subject of this sketch was born in Pickaway Co. in 1818; was married to Elizabeth Stutsman, of Montgomery Co., in 1844; after their marriage, he lived on his father's place, in Neave Township, until, in 1849, he purchased, and they removed to, the farm in Sec. 26, where they now reside; thus it will be seen Mr. Landis has been a resident of Neave Township more than a half-century; has witnessed and contributed his full share toward the improvement, public and private, moral as well as physical. Both he and his estimable wife are worthy members of the German Baptist Church; also two of their grown children. They have eight children—David, a resident of Michigan; Andrew, a resident of Greenville; Lydia, now Mrs. A. Rodgers; Abraham; Mary, now Mrs. Harvey Shover; Jacob; Frances, now Mrs. Lewis Price, and John, Jr.

J. N. LOWRY, farmer and stock-dealer; P. O. Weaver's Station; is a son of Reuben Lowry, who was one of the early settlers of Neave Township; Reuben was always very fond of hunting, and, when game became scarce here, he became restless and went to Kansas, in 1861, and in 1865, removed there, and has resided





there ever since. The subject of this sketch was born in 1843, and grew to manhood on the farm, and, when his father went to Kansas, he farmed the place, and, when his parents moved to Kansas, he purchased a portion of his father's land, including the homestead, and has resided here all his life; he now has 190 acres in the northeast part of the township, the undivided half of 150 acres near Ft. Jefferson, and 72 acres in Sec. 30, besides the homestead, which is in Sec. 31, and contains 96 acres; besides superintending these farms, Mr. Lowry deals quite extensively in stock, and is the foremost man of his age in Neave Township, if not in the county; he was married in 1865 to Miss Louisa, daughter of David Studabaker; they have two children—Minnie and Harry E.

**SAMUEL LUDY**, farmer; P. O. Weaver's Station; one of the old residents of Darke County; was born in Pennsylvania in 1811; he remained at home on the farm during his minority, then came to Ohio, first stopping in Montgomery County, where he remained several years working by the job or month; in the mean time visited Darke County, and entered an 80-acre tract of land in Butler Township. He was married to Elizabeth Miller in 1836; she was born in Pennsylvania; is the daughter of William and Susannah Miller, who came from Franklin County, Penn., to Montgomery County, Ohio, in 1829, and to Darke County in 1839; Mr. and Mrs. Ludy began domestic life in the spring of 1836, on the land he had entered in Butler Township, with very limited means, and had to struggle amid the difficulties common to the early settlers in this region; after a residence of twenty-six years, they reluctantly parted with this home and removed to a farm in Sec. 4, which he purchased from her father; they came to their present pleasant home in 1869; having been identified with the county from the days of pioneer life, through the tedious and toilsome days of progress and the burdensome period of modern improvements, which have brought this county so rapidly forward to the front rank in points of public enterprise and general productiveness; they may justly feel a pride in enjoying, as they evidently do, the present comforts of a pleasant home, with pleasant surroundings; they have been active, useful and respected people; have raised a family of eleven children—Susan, William, Jacob, Samuel, Nathaniel, Nicholas, Elizabeth, now Mrs. Jacob Judy; Maria, now Mrs. Daniel Burket; Sarah, now Mrs. Jacob Nyswonger, a resident of Iowa; James and Silas; the last two and first are single, all the others are respected heads of families. The five oldest sons—William, Jacob, Samuel, Nathaniel and Nicholas—were soldiers in the late war, Jacob being a "veteran," having served four years, William three, and the others different shorter periods.

**WILLIAM MILLER**, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Delisle. Mr. Miller belongs to a pioneer family; was born Nov. 29, 1837, on the farm upon which he now resides; he is a son of Samuel and Nancy (Howell) Miller, and grandson of David and Catherine (Studabaker) Miller; David Miller was a native of Bedford County, Penn., but emigrated to Ohio at an early day, locating for a short time in Clinton County, afterward in Miami County, and finally came to Darke County and located in Neave Township soon after the war of 1812. Samuel Miller was born in Clinton County, Ohio, March 25, 1805; was a youth when his parents came to Darke County, and grew to manhood here in pioneer days; married Miss Nancy, daughter of Joshua and Christena (Mikesell) Howell; Joshua was a native of Virginia, and Nancy was born in Maryland; they came to Darke County about the year 1821, and he became a leading and influential citizen; was Sheriff and also Commissioner during his residence here; both he and his wife lived to fourscore years, and resided in Michigan at the time of their decease; after his marriage, Mr. Miller rented four years, then entered one quarter of Sec. 24, Neave Township, which was then all woods, and upon which he hurriedly built a cabin, into which he moved his family before it was "chinked," not waiting even to place a floor or hang a door; the first night after their arrival, there was an addition of several kittens to their supply of domestic animals, but, it being a cold March night, they all froze, to the great grief of the children; by perseverance and toil,





amid privations and difficulties known only to the pioneer, he succeeded, by the assistance of his family in securing a home and adding 154 acres to the original tract; in his later years, he retired from active labor, and the farm was carried on by his sons, under his supervision, he having raised a family of eleven children, seven of whom are still living; his death occurred Nov. 1, 1856; his widow is now the wife of William McCool, and resides in Delisle. William Miller remained on the old homestead until 1864, renting of his mother after his marriage with Miss Margaret M. Frye, which occurred Aug. 1, 1861; she is a daughter of Andrew and Rachael (Wilson) Frye, who resided near Fort Jefferson, and had a family of eleven children, only three of whom are now living. (See biography of H. W. Frye.) In the spring of 1864, Mr. Miller purchased 80 acres in Greenville Township, upon which he resided about four years, then sold it and removed to her father's place near Fort Jefferson; six months later, he purchased 120 acres of the old homestead, including the residence, and again took up his abode on the spot where he was born and spent his youthful days. Mr. Miller has been School Director five years and Trustee ten years, a compliment to his judgment and to the interest he takes in education and the general welfare; his home is a pleasant place, and his hospitality unbounded; Mrs. Miller is a worthy member of the M. E. Church, and a conscientious Christian woman. They are the parents of three children—Ollie R., born Sep. 1, 1863, now an interesting miss; Charles A., May 4, 1866; and one who died in infancy. May both Mr. and Mrs. Miller live long and enjoy much of the fruits of their labors, and hereafter reap a rich reward for their disinterested kindness and hospitality, conferred alike on friends and strangers, is the wish of the writer.

GEORGE D. MILLER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 16; P. O. Greenville. Among the early pioneers of Darke Co., the gentleman whose name heads this sketch is accorded a place in the front ranks; he was born in Warren Co., Ohio, Nov. 20, 1818, and is a son of George Miller, a native of Pennsylvania, who came to Warren Co., Ohio, in 1817, and to Darke Co., in 1824, locating in Harrison Township, where he lived until his death, which occurred September, 1866, at the advanced age of 75 years. The subject of our sketch came to Darke Co. with his parents and is consequently among the oldest continued residents of the county; he remained with his parents and assisted in agricultural pursuits until he attained his majority, when on account of ill health he abandoned farming, and the following fourteen years he devoted his attention to school teaching and studying; in 1851, he resumed farming in Harrison Township, and on Dec. 22, 1865, he removed upon his present place, where he has since lived; he has 250 acres of good land, under a good state of cultivation, with buildings second to none in the county; of township and county offices, he has had his full share, having held the office of Township Assessor eight years, Township Clerk six years, Justice of the Peace nine years; he was elected to the Constitutional Convention to represent the interest of Darke Co. in 1873, and in 1877 was elected County Commissioner, which office he now holds; he has been continually in office since 1845—which fact is a sufficient guarantee that his services have been alike satisfactory to the people and creditable to himself. His marriage with Elizabeth Rush was celebrated August, 1850; she was born in Darke Co. in 1825; they are the parents of four children now living, having lost one by death. The living are Emily, Minerva Jane, Henry D. and Volney; Mrs. Miller was a daughter of Asa Rush, one of the early pioneers of Darke Co.

LYDIA MEYERS, Delisle; widow of William H. Meyers (deceased); Mrs. Meyers was born in Darke Co. in 1844; is the daughter of Henry and Rachel Tillman; was married to William H. Meyers in 1865; he was the son of Joseph and Lavina Meyers; was born in Butler Co. in 1844; he began domestic life where the widow now resides, and has resided ever since, except about one year's residence in Twin Township. Mr. Meyers, during his short residence, contributed much toward the general improvement of the neighborhood, besides bearing his





share of the burden of graveling the road ; he had just completed a neat and commodious dwelling when his death occurred. in 1877 ; he was Township Trustee several years, and was a respected, useful citizen ; they had two children—Edwin E. and Sylvester A.

JOHN E. NORTH, farmer and teacher ; P. O. Weaver's Station ; one of the rising young men of Neave Township ; is a son of Allen and Mary A. (Fry) North ; Allen North (deceased) was a resident of Neave Township for many years, and was a very active and successful citizen ; his father at one time owned a tract of land upon which a part of the city of Indianapolis now stands ; here Allen was born ; his father died while he was yet a boy, and his mother married again ; through the intemperance of his stepfather, the family was made poor, and Allen, though a youth, was the main support of his mother for several years. At the time of his marriage, an old horse constituted his capital, at the time of his death he had accumulated about \$20,000 worth of property, mostly real estate, besides a policy of \$10,000 on his life ; the widow now resides at the old homestead, in Sec. 26. The subject of this sketch was born in Neave Township, in 1851, and grew to manhood on the farm, receiving an ordinary common-school education ; has taught district school winters for the past eight years, farming, thrashing, etc., during the remainder of the year ; has been Township Assessor, and is the present Township Clerk. He was married in 1876 to Mary C., daughter of George Howes ; they have one child—George Allen.

JOHN NYSWONGER, farmer ; P. O. Weaver's Station ; is a son of Jonathan Nyswonger, who was born in Pennsylvania July 9, 1790 ; resided in Pennsylvania, and came to Darke Co. at an early day ; both Jonathan and his father were soldiers in the war of 1812 ; John's mother, Elizabeth (Clarke) Nyswonger, was a sister to the mother of J. N. Lowry, whose biography appears in this work, and was born in Pennsylvania in 1797. The subject of this sketch was born in Greene Co., Penn., Oct. 3, 1817 ; his father emigrated to Darke Co. in 1829, and John grew to manhood here during the early days of Neave Township ; he remembers well when he went to "Noffsinger's Mill," and waited his turn at the crank to bolt the family grist. He was married in 1843, to Susannah Ault, a daughter of John Ault, who was a native of Pennsylvania, and an early settler of Darke Co. : Mr. Nyswonger had purchased 40 acres of the farm where he now resides, made an "opening," and built a log house previous to his marriage ; here they began domestic life, and by perseverance, amid discouraging circumstances, they now have a pleasant home, around which cluster the memories of half a century ; he now has 101 acres in the home farm, 26 adjoining Ft. Jefferson, 90 in Iowa, and 160 in Missouri, and, although he is quite advanced in years, is still vigorous, and actively engaged in farming. Mr. and Mrs. Nyswonger are the parents of eleven children ; three are deceased ; three sons, Hiram H., William H. and Elijah, are in California ; Jacob is a resident of Iowa ; Rebecca is now Mrs. William Eubank, of Harrison Township ; three—Alfred, Addie and Susan E. are members of the family household.

N. L. C. PHILLIPS, farmer ; P. O. Jaysville ; the son of Joseph Phillips, who is one of the few men who lived to see their fourscore years ; he is the son of John, Phillips, who was born in Hamilton Co., and was a soldier in the wars of 1791, 1793 and 1812 ; he was one of those who was left behind to escort the provision supply, and so escaped that terrible battle, Sinclair's defeat, in which all his comrades were slain, except two, and they were wounded. Joseph was raised on a farm, and, when about 19 years of age, went to the cabinet-maker's trade, at which he served the usual three years' apprenticeship, but never followed the business or did much at it afterward ; he now has a clock, the case of which he made and took in payment for his work ; he worked at carpentering at Cincinnati, Ohio, one year, and then commenced farming ; he first rented, and when he was able, bought 80 acres in the woods of Hamilton Co. ; he owned a mill property which he operated several years ; they came to Darke Co., in the spring of 1857, and settled in





Sec. 13, where he has resided ever since. He was married in 1822 to Nancy Conrey ; she was born near Lexington, Ky., in 1801 ; they are now one of the few couples who have lived to pass their golden wedding anniversary, he being in his 83d year, and still in possession of all his faculties, and she being in her 79th year and more feeble than her husband, having had a paralytic stroke, but is still vigorous in mind. The son, N. L. C., was born in Hamilton Co., in 1839 ; he assisted his father in the mill until they came to Darke Co., and then assisted on the farm until about 20 years of age, and then engaged in a daguerrean room to learn the art ; after about one year's experience, finding that it affected his health, he quit and resumed farming ; he spent about two years here on his father's place, and then removed to Miami Co., where he owned 40 acres of land, and remained there until 1879, when he returned to his father's place, and now has charge of the homestead and care of his aged parents. He was married in 1864 to Rachael H. Coppock, daughter of William Coppock, deceased, who was an early resident of Miami Co. ; they have six children, Ida O., W. Z. D., James A., Nancy Rosetta, Wesley J. and Clara A.

JACOB RIEKER, farmer ; P. O. Arcanum ; a son of George M. and Catherine Rieker, natives of Germany and early residents of Butler Township ; Jacob is a brother-in-law to Joseph Hittle whose biography appears in the Butler Township list ; he was born in Germany in 1829, and was only 2 years old when his parents brought him to the United States ; they settled in Butler Township in 1831. he grew to manhood on the farm and has continued to farm ever since, residing part of the time in Butler and part in Neave Townships ; he came to his present farm about seven years ago ; he has just completed a very neat and commodious residence, which is well finished, and is the most elegant residence in the neighborhood. He was married in 1858 to Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel and Margaret Gebhart, who were married in Montgomery Co. and came to Darke Co. about the same time that Mr. Rieker's parents did. Mr. and Mrs. Rieker are worthy members of the Reformed Church, and useful, respected members of society ; they have had two children, both of whom died in infancy.

ALFRED ROBESON, farmer ; P. O. Arcanum ; the subject of this sketch is the son of Andrew Robeson, and grandson of John Robeson, who were early settlers of Butler Township ; Alfred was born in Butler Township, in 1841, and has always lived in the neighborhood of his birth ; he remained on the farm with his parents during his youth, and began teaching in winter when about 18 years of age, and continued winter, teaching and cropping, etc., during the summer, for about ten years ; he purchased his present farm which contains 120 acres. He was married in 1868 to Nancy Clarke ; she is the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Clarke, formerly residents of Butler Township but now of Arcanum ; they began domestic life, soon after their marriage, on the farm, in Sec. 35, where they now reside ; Mr. Robeson is a life-resident of Darke Co., and, although a young man, is already one of its substantial citizens ; he is a worthy member of the Masonic Order, and she is a worthy member of the Reformed Church, and both are respected members of society.

GEORGE SCHLECHTY, farmer and Justice of the Peace ; P. O. Weaver's Station ; a son of Christian Schlechty, who was a native of Berks Co., Penn., and came with his parents, Christian, Sr., and Barbara Schlechty, to Darke Co. ; he was married here to Susannah Noggle, and resided on the farm in Sec. 33, which the son George now owns. The subject of this sketch was born in Neave Township, in 1824, and grew to manhood here amid the difficulties and limited opportunities of the early residents ; his father had a tan-yard, and George came in for his share of work at that trade, but, when he became a man, preferred farming, and has farmed ever since ; he now has the farm upon which his grandfather settled, about the year 1816 ; he also owns the tract upon which his father first resided after his marriage. Mr. Schlechty is the present Justice of the Peace for Neave Township, and is a leading and useful citizen ; he was married on March 10, 1859, to Rebecca





Winders, a native of Indiana; they have six children—Willis M., Edson V., Levi D., Charles A., Jasper N. and John F., all of whom are members of the present household.

AARON SWANK, farmer; P. O. Weaver's Station; a "Buckeye" by birth; was born in Montgomery County in 1834; is a son of George and Susanna Swank; when about 10 years of age, he became fatherless, and was cared for by his mother and older brothers; after he became of age, he learned the carpenter's trade, and worked at it several years. He was married in 1858 to Mahala Baker, and they removed to Indiana, but soon returned to Montgomery County, where Mrs. Swank's death occurred in 1866; they had no children; in 1869, he married Mrs. Martha (Neely) McCool, a daughter of William Neely, who was an early settler of Neave Township; he has since resided in Darke County; came to his present residence, in Sec. 34, in 1872; they have five children—William Jacob, Lilly May, Hester, Emma and Julia Ann; Mr. and Mrs. Swank are worthy members of church, and useful, respected members of the community.

DAVID THOMPSON, farmer; P. O. Greenville; another life-resident of Darke Co.; is the son of Thomas Thompson, who was a native of Virginia and came to Darke Co. with his father, David Thompson, in 1814, who entered the land in Greenville Township, now owned by David Studabaker; Thomas, who was a young man when his parents came here, was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Abram Studabaker, and they resided near Hill Grove, in Washington Township, several years; he then traded his property for a property in Randolph Co., Ind., and removed there and remained until his death; his wife's death occurred near Hill Grove. The subject of this sketch was born near Hill Grove, in 1832, and when about 16 years of age, having lost his mother, he struck out for himself and worked at farming, teaming, or anything he could get to do, until his marriage with Eva Neal, which was celebrated Aug. 21, 1853, after which he rented and farmed several years, one year in Illinois, but not liking it out there returned and farmed the Hunt place four years; was Superintendent of the County Infirmary six years; then purchased his present farm and removed to it in 1866; his wife's death occurred Dec. 26, 1874, after which he sold off his personal property, rented his farm, and resided in Greenville; his marriage with Catherine E. Lot was celebrated Jan. 9, 1877; they remained in Greenville until the following November, when he had completed his present neat and commodious residence, they removed here and have remained ever since; Mr. T. has seen the rough of Darke Co.; began here a boy, poor, and gradually worked his way up, until he accumulated enough to purchase his farm, which he has improved considerably, although his health has been quite delicate for several years past.

WILLIAM THOMPSON, farmer; P. O. Greenville; another life-resident of Darke Co.; is a brother of David Thompson, whose biography appears also in this township list; William was born in Washington Township, in 1836; was brought up a farmer, and commenced farming with a brother in 1855, and continued to rent and farm until 1866, when he took charge of the County Infirmary, remaining five years; then came to the farm in Secs. 15 and 16, which he had purchased previous to his superintendency of the Infirmary, and upon which he has continued to reside ever since, uniting stock-raising with farming; he now has 122 acres of improved land, well supplied with stock, etc.; he also has a business property on Broadway, in Greenville, which he rents. Mr. Thompson was married in 1857 to Miss Amanda, daughter of Caleb Neal, who was an early resident of Neave Township; the fruit of this union was two children—Alice and Vinora.

JOSHUA TOWNSEND, farmer; P. O. Greenville; is the son of William Townsend, who was a native of North Carolina, and was married to Mary Edwards, a native of Tennessee; they came to Darke Co., at an early day. The subject of this sketch was born in Darke Co. in 1824; he was left fatherless at the age of 4 years; his mother had two other sons, both younger than Joshua, but she managed to keep the family together, and by hard labor and some assistance





from her father, Eli Edwards, she managed to live until Joshua had grown up, when he was about 20 years of age, they went on to a farm which the father had purchased, but had not cleared, and Joshua and his two younger brothers undertook and did make a living by leasing cleared land close by, until they got their own under cultivation; the next brother younger got married first, and then Joshua and his younger brother bought the other out; afterward Joshua bought the whole place and continued to farm there until 1855, having been elected Sheriff of Darke Co., he removed to Greenville, and held the office two terms; afterward he removed to Jaysville and engaged in the stock trade; in 1864, he purchased a farm and commenced farming again, but continued the stock-dealing, until, within a few years past, he has turned his attention entirely to farming; he now has over 1,000 acres of improved land, all in Neave Township. Mr. Townsend was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention at Charleston, in 1860, and is a leading and highly respected citizen. He was married in 1852 to Mary A. Bierly; she was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, and resided at the time of her marriage with her stepmother, who married Noah Arnold, a resident of Neave Township; they have had eight children—J. H., now married and a resident of Neave Township; William H., Frank B., Miranda B., Charles E., Mary M., Ellen J. and Lillie May.

ABIJAH H. VANDYKE, farmer; P. O. Greenville; was born in Hamilton Co., Ohio, in 1823; is the son of Andrew E. Vandyke, who came from Pennsylvania to Hamilton Co., Ohio, where his death occurred in 1840. The subject of this sketch, when about 17 years of age, began to learn the wagon and carriage maker's trade, at which he worked several years, then engaged in different occupations until 1860, when he became a resident of Darke Co. and rented the Hunt farm three years, then purchased the farm in Sec. 14, which is now his homestead. In 1868, he was elected Sheriff of Darke Co., and re-elected in 1870; after serving the two terms as Sheriff, he returned to his farm, and has resided on it ever since. he has been an active, useful citizen, and most of the modern improvements of Darke Co. have been made since he became a resident here. He was married in Hamilton Co., to Sylvia Lawrence, daughter of Levi Lawrence, deceased, who was then a resident of Michigan, and formerly of Glendale, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Vandyke are the parents of six children, four sons and two daughters.

NATHANIEL W. WILSON, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Greenville. Among the old settlers of Darke Co., the gentleman who heads this sketch takes a place in the front ranks; he was born in Butler Co., Ohio, May 18, 1832; he was a son of Andrew P. Wilson, born in Kentucky July 2, 1801, and, with his parents, came to Butler Co. when 4 years of age. He was married, in the same county, to Sarah Allen, June 10, 1828; she was born in the Territory of Indiana April 10, 1808. In 1834, they came to Darke Co. and located in Harrison Township, and followed farming until the decease of Mr. Wilson, which occurred Sept. 6, 1852. Mrs. Wilson is now living upon the old farm, where she has lived for a period of forty-five years. The subject of this memoir remained upon the home farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits until Dec 27, 1854, when he was united in marriage with Mary E. Rush; she was born in Harrison Township, Darke Co., Oct. 11, 1836. they have seven children now living, having lost three by death; the living are Margaret M., John K., William G., Sarah E., Charles A., Nathaniel Elmer and Andrew P.; upon the marriage of Mr. Wilson, he commenced farming for himself in Harrison Township, until the fall of 1871. He has served the county as its Sheriff for four years in succession, being first elected in 1871, and re-elected in 1873, and in 1875, he purchased a farm two miles south of Greenville, upon which he lived until February, 1878, when he sold and purchased his present place, where he has since lived; he now has 270 acres, with a good farm, located three miles from Greenville, on the Ft. Jefferson and Greenville pike, valued at some \$15,000, nearly all of which he has accumulated by his own exertions. Mrs. Wilson was a daughter of Asa Rush, who was born in Bedford Co., Penn., April





25, 1799, and came to Darke Co., in 1812, and was among the first settlers of Darke Co.; he married Margaret Hill; she was born in South Carolina June 16, 1801, and died June 1856. Mr. Rush died May, 1874.

## BROWN TOWNSHIP.

L. C. ANDERSON, physician and surgeon, Dallas; P. O. Ansonia; born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Jan. 15, 1850; he was the oldest son of John Anderson, who was born in Pennsylvania Sept. 10, 1821, and emigrated to Montgomery Co., then to Preble Co., and in 1863, he came to Darke Co., and located in Twin Township, and in 1865, he came to Ansonia; he died in Sydney May 30, 1869; he was married to Mary A. Hulse Feb. 15, 1849; she was a native of Montgomery Co.; was born June 15, 1830, and died Aug. 22, 1864. The subject of this memoir obtained a good common-school education, and in the spring of 1871, he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. W. E. Hooven, and after a study of three years, including two terms of lectures at the Miami Medical College, he graduated from the above place in the spring of 1874, and, upon the 23d of March, he formed a partnership under the firm name of Hooven & Anderson, which partnership continues the same, with a yearly increase of practice. His marriage with Olive Tullis was celebrated April 29, 1875; she was born in Darke Co. Feb. 15, 1851; they have one child, John Milton, born June 21, 1876.

HENRY BAUGHMAN, retired farmer; P. O. Ansonia; one of the early pioneers of Darke County; born in Germany Dec. 20, 1822; he emigrated with his parents to America, landing in Baltimore in the fall of 1832; after living in Virginia three years, they came to Ohio and located in Richland Township in the fall of 1835; his father, John H. Baughman, was born in Germany, and, upon locating here, entered Government land, upon which he lived some thirty years; he died in Brown Township, in September, 1875; Mrs. Baughman died about the year 1858; they were the parents of eight children, of whom three sons and two daughters are now living. Henry remained with his father until 15 years of age, when he started in life for himself by hiring out as farm-laborer, the first year at \$4 per month and the second year at \$8, and the following seven years he cropped with his former employer, Jacob Studabaker; he entered first 160 acres of canal land, for which he paid \$300; after farming the same a few years, he disposed of 40 acres for \$1,000, and now has the balance left; he has refused \$800 for 8 acres of the same land; he now owns nearly 300 acres, with good buildings, aside from his residence and lots in Dallas. Mr. Baughman commenced in life without means, and, after years of toil, has placed himself among the large landholders and successful farmers of Darke County, and accumulated a handsome fortune; in 1865, he rented his farm and purchased a residence in Dallas, where he has since lived, retired from active labor. His marriage with Mary Studabaker was celebrated in Darke County in 1846; nine children were born to them, of whom two sons and six daughters are now living, viz., Emily (now Mrs. Walter Reed), Caroline (now Mrs. Joseph Reed), Juliette (now Mrs. Jefferson Hostetter, of Dallas), Mary Ann, Franklin, Ida, May and Lawrance; the deceased died in infancy. Mr. Baughman has been a member of the Presbyterian Church since childhood; his wife and nearly all the family are also church members. When Mr. Baughman first located here, the place where Dallas now stands was a wilderness, and he assisted to erect the first building in the town.

WILLIAM BAUGHMAN, retired farmer; one of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; born in Germany March 24, 1827; when 5 years of age, he emigrated with his parents to America, landing in Baltimore in 1832; they went to Wheeling, Va., where they arrived without means, and remained three years;

## STOWN JOURNAL

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they came to Darke Co. in 1835; here his father, John H., died, September, 1875, his wife having died about the year 1838. In October, 1848, William Baughman was united in marriage with Catherine Bertz; she was born in Germany, and is a sister of George Bertz, whose sketch also appears in this work; ten children was the fruit of this union, of whom five sons and two daughters now survive, viz., Solomon, Mary J., George W., William, Lucy B., Charlie and Augusta. Upon the marriage of Mr. B., he farmed upon rented land four years; he then bought 10 acres, upon which he lived nine years; he now owns 256 acres in Brown and Richland Townships, with good farm buildings, also his residence and some improved business property in town. Mr. Baughman commenced life without means and has by his own hard labor, energy and industry, placed himself among the large landholders and successful business men of Brown Township, being a partner in the popular hardware firm of Bertz, Schlemmer & Co.

GEORGE BERTZ, hardware dealer, firm of Bertz, Schlemmer & Co., Ansonia, Ohio. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch is another of the self-made men of Darke County; he was born in Saxony, Germany, April 6, 1835, and was a son of John Bertz, who was born in Saxony, Germany, in 1803, and died in 1844. He was married in Germany to Anna Magdalena Doud; she, with five children, emigrated to America in 1847; she died in Richland Township Sept. 13, 1848. The subject of this sketch emigrated to America with his mother, and, upon her death, was taken by William Baughman, by whom he was kindly cared for and raised until he attained his majority, and for compensation to this date received \$100; the following seven years his wages ranged from \$75 to \$100 yearly; in 1864, he went to Nebraska and purchased 160 acres of land in Otoe County, and for four years was engaged in the restaurant and baker business in Nebraska City; his brother now resides upon the above farm, which he has under a good state of cultivation; in 1869, Mr. Bertz returned to Ansonia and engaged in the dry-goods trade, and in 1873 he engaged with William Baughman in the agricultural trade, and in the fall of 1874 they erected their brick store and added their present business, which they have since successfully followed; a card of their business appears among the business cards of Ansonia; in 1875, he was elected Township Trustee, which office he has since held, and is also serving his second year as Councilman of Ansonia; has been a member of the church since 12 years of age, and a member of Lodge 605 I. O. O. F. since 1875; has never made use of tobacco in any form, and is a strong champion of the cause of temperance.

HEZEKIAH W. FRY, Sec. 21, Ansonia; one of the oldsettlers of Darke County; born in what is now Neave Township, near old Fort Jefferson, Jan. 26, 1835; he was a son of Andrew Fry, who was born in Pennsylvania and emigrated to Darke County somewhere from 1820 to 1825, and settled in the woods, where he was engaged in farming in connection with his trade, which was a wheelwright; he was also local preacher of the Methodist Church, was Justice of the Peace for many years, and held other township offices; he died about the year 1871; he married Rachel Wilson; she was born in Hamilton County; she died a few years after the death of her husband. The subject of this sketch received a common-school education and assisted his father on the farm until March 19, 1857, when he was united in marriage with Ellen J. Guy; she was a native of Pennsylvania, born April 10, 1836; they have three sons and two daughters living, having lost two daughters by death; the living are Agnes, Albertice, Benjamin F., Alonzo M. and Grace A. Upon the marriage of Mr. Fry, he farmed upon rented land four years, and in 1861 he purchased 160 acres of his present place, where he has since lived; he has now 210 acres, with good farm buildings, under a fair state of cultivation. He has taken a deep interest in the cause of religion, having been a member of the M. E. Church for a period of a quarter of a century; his wife and eldest daughter members of the same church.

DANIEL GARRISON, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 29; P. O. Woodington, another of our old settlers; born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Feb. 17, 1836. His





father, Leonard, was born in Pennsylvania in 1803 ; came to Ohio. and, after a residence of several years in Montgomery and Butler Co.'s, came to Darke Co. in 1844, where he died in July, 1871 : he married Maria Bake ; she was born in Butler Co. and died when the subject of this sketch was an infant. Daniel Garrison came to Darke Co. with his father in 1844, and was raised to agricultural pursuits, and employed as farm laborer until about 24 years of age, when, upon the 20th of September, 1860, he was united in marriage with Mary Niswonger : she was born in Montgomery Co. Jan. 30, 1840 ; they have four children now living. viz. : Elmer E., born Oct. 7, 1861 ; Joseph N., born Sept. 23, 1864 ; Viola May, born July 9, 1870, and Ada B., born Nov. 15, 1877 ; Leonard A. was born July 21, 1867, and died Jan. 6, 1870. After the marriage of Mr. G. ; he farmed upon rented land twelve years, and in 1872 he purchased his present place of 65 acres, where he has since lived ; he is one of our self-made men ; commencing in life without means, he has secured all of the above property by his own hard labor, energy and industry ; he, with his wife, have been members of the Christian Church for a period of about thirty years. Mrs. Garrison was a daughter of Joseph Niswonger, who was born in Montgomery Co., where he now resides ; her mother was Anna W. Henderson ; she was born in Ohio, and died some twenty-six years ago : upon the 3d of June, 1877, Mrs. Garrison was stricken with paralysis, depriving her of the use of her left side ; since which time she has been unable to perform only her light household duties ; she has, however, borne her afflictions with that fortitude which is characteristic of her true Christian life.

L. C. GARVER, dealer in groceries and provisions, Ansonia : born in Washington Co., Md., Oct. 21, 1842 ; in 1848, he came to Columbus, Ohio, and in 1851 to Montgomery Co. ; in August, 1852, came to Darke Co. and located in Richland Township ; here his father, Isaac Garver, met his death by an accident at a barn raising, one of the timbers falling upon him late in the day, causing his death, after a few hours' suffering, upon May 3, 1854. The subject of our sketch was then thrown upon his own resources, and labored at such employment as he could obtain until Sept. 7, 1861, when he enlisted as a private in Co. K, 34th O. V. I. (1st Ohio Zouaves), for three years ; he was in many severe battles, among which we mention the battle of Winchester, both battles of Fayetteville, Raleigh and Charlestown, Va., the whole campaign of the Shenandoah Valley, Martinsburg and the Lynchburg raid, and many others ; he was one of the 1,200 who were detailed to make a raid to destroy the V. & T. R. R. ; they made the trip of upward of 400 miles in six days, traveling over mountains and valleys, through a dangerous country, traveling by day and night ; they encountered many dangers ; at one time found themselves in the rebel camp ; often, while riding at night, some of the poor soldiers, with their horses, were thrown over precipices : they arrived at Wytheville on Saturday, July 18, 1863, and immediately attacked the town, which was garrisoned by a force of rebels, lodged in the buildings, equally as large as the Union force ; after severe fighting, in which the Union forces lost heavily in killed and wounded, the place was captured : in this engagement Mr. Garver was severely wounded ; being the chief target for many rebels, he received eight bullets upon his person at one volley ; he managed to crawl to some secluded place, was taken prisoner and remained in rebel prisons until March 24, 1864, when he was paroled, having served in rebel prisons eight months, suffering all the cruel treatment and starvation extended to our Union soldiers ; after receiving his parole, he lay in the Hospital until the September following, when, his term of enlistment having expired, he returned home, and the following spring engaged in farming, continuing the same until 1874, when, on account of failing health from the cruel treatment received while in rebel prisons, and suffering from his wounds, he abandoned farming, came to Ansonia, and engaged in the above business, which he has since successfully followed. In politics, he is a strong Republican, and always votes as he fought. Upon the 23d of May, 1865, he was united in marriage with Charlotte Warvel ; she was born in





Darke Co. Dec. 13, 1847: they have four children by this union—John H. W. born June 13, 1866; Cordelia M., April 10, 1869; Leonard M. and Lizzie M. (twins), Nov. 8, 1873. The business card of Mr. Garver will be found in the directory of Ansonia. in another part of this work.

ORLANDO J. HAGER, contractor and builder, of the firm Riffle & Hager, P. O. Ansonia; residence, Dallas; another of our old settlers; born in Montgomery County upon the 12th of November, 1847: he is a son of James W. Hager, who was born in the same county, and came to Darke County in 1851, and now resides in Richland Township. The subject of this sketch came to this county with his parents when only 3 years of age, and located in Richland Township, where he was raised to agricultural pursuits until 19 years of age, when he started out in the world to seek his fortune, and, upon the 13th of August, 1867, commenced to learn the carpenter's trade, and for one year received wages of \$1 per day, and the second year his wages were \$1.25, the third, \$1.50, and the remainder of the time he received \$1.75; he worked for the same party for nearly five years, when he returned to Darke County, and for two years was employed by John Longnecker, at his trade at Pikesville; he then engaged one year in agricultural pursuits, and, upon the 17th of February, 1874, he located in Dallas and started in the carpenter business, and the following year associated with Silas Riffle, under the above firm name, which business he has since followed. Upon May 1, 1873, he was married to Elizabeth Warvel; she was born in Darke County Sept. 25, 1853; they have one child, viz., Pearl I., born Nov. 11, 1876; Mrs. Hager is a daughter of John H. Warvel, one of the early pioneers of Darke County, whose sketch appears among the biographies of Greenville Township, in another part of this work.

J. R. HOLLAND, retired farmer, Sec. 31: P. O. Woodington; one of the old settlers; born in Montgomery Co., Penn., Jan. 19, 1807: his father died when he was about 2 years old; he then lived with his mother until 16 years of age, when he was apprenticed to learn the printer's trade, which he followed in Philadelphia until 21 years of age, when he went to New Orleans, then to Cincinnati, Ohio, and followed his trade some fifteen years; the last work at his trade was on the Cincinnati *Enquirer*; he was then appointed Deputy Marshal, which office he filled two years; he devoted one year to running a power-press at Indianapolis, which was the first power-press run in Indiana, under the revised statistics, the printing office being located opposite Browning's Hotel; he then followed the grocery trade some three years in Cincinnati, and in 1858, disposed of his store and stock and came to Darke County, and purchased 260 acres in Brown and Greenville Townships, upon which he then located, and where he has since lived; he now owns 360 acres, under a good state of improvement; of township and school offices he has had his full share, having been County Commissioner six years, Township Trustee five years, and also held some other petty offices; upon the location of Mr. Holland here, he followed farming and stock-raising until 1877, when he retired from active labor, his son managing the farm. His marriage with Harriet M. Ricketts was celebrated in Philadelphia; she was born in Pennsylvania, and died upon the old homestead in May, 1877; they were the parents of five children—Laura (now Mrs. Crosson, of Union City), Mary Ann (now Mrs. John Atchinson, of Paris, Ky.), Ada (now Mrs. George Lindermond), Charlotte (now Mrs. Ginther) and Charles S. (living at home).

DR. ISAAC HOSTETTER, deceased, one of the early pioneers of Darke Co., Ohio; born in Lancaster Co., Penn., Nov. 30, 1810; he received his preparatory education at Lancaster, Penn., and graduated from the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in the year 1834; he emigrated from Pennsylvania to Montgomery Co., Ohio, and, about the year 1835, commenced the practice of medicine, and, in 1836, came to Darke County and located in Richland Township, where he followed his profession, in connection with farming, until 1844, when he left his farm and removed to Beamsville, erected a good residence and continued to practice until within a short time of his death: he was elected to





represent the counties of Miami, Shelby and Darke in the General Assembly of Ohio during the session of 1844-45: the above counties, at that time, constituted one district; he was also Major General of the Ohio State Militia, his uniform and sword now being held by his son, Dr. Samuel A. Hostetter, and valued very highly by him as an heirloom; the Doctor was one of the first practitioners of the county, the practice of medicine at that early day being attended with difficulty and hardships, extending over one-half a degree of latitude and longitude, traveling on horseback and dispensing his medicine from his saddle-bags; he was married in Montgomery County, to Hannah Hager; she was born in Hagerstown, Md., Nov. 5, 1813, the above town being named in honor of her grandfather; they were the parents of four sons and three daughters, viz., Hiram H., Salinda A., Elizabeth C., Samuel A., Thomas J., Nancy E. (deceased) and Franklin P. In 1859, the Doctor received a stroke of paralysis, which was followed, in February, 1861, by a second stroke, and the following month, March 2, he passed down the dark valley, respected and beloved by all who knew him, and one of whom his cotemporaries could truly say, His life was not a failure, nor did he live in vain. Of their children, the eldest son, Hiram, lost his life while serving his country during the late rebellion; being taken prisoner, he was taken to Libby Prison, where he died after seven months; the oldest sister, Salinda, is married, and lives in Missouri; Elizabeth C. is also married, and lives in Missouri; Dr. Samuel has been a member, for four years past, of the Ohio Legislature, and is now, with Thomas J., engaged in the drug trade at Ansonia; Frank P. is engaged in the stock business, in Kansas.

G. C. HULSE, farmer and grain-dealer; residence Dallas; P. O. Ansonia; born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, April 16, 1832, and was raised to agricultural pursuits upon the home farm, until 25 years of age, when he removed to Preble Co. Oct. 1, 1857; he followed farming here until Nov. 20, 1872, when he came to Darke Co. and settled at Ansonia, and purchased a farm of 46 acres, and laid out the west part of the town; he then engaged in purchasing and shipping grain to Cleveland and Eastern markets until 1875, at which time he retired from the above business. He then gave his attention to farming, and in the fall of 1879 he again commenced the purchase of grain, which business he intends to follow; his warehouse is situated on Plum street, where he has a switch of 400 feet connecting his warehouse with the railroad; he owns 100 acres in Brown Township, besides his brick residence, warehouse, storehouse, and some lots in town. His marriage with Sarah Bonham was celebrated June 1, 1860; she was born in Darke Co. June 29, 1844; they were the parents of eight children, viz.: Wilbur, born July 27, 1861; Ida, born Aug. 11, 1863, died June 18, 1864; David, born Jan. 2, 1866; Charles, born March 5, 1868; Anna, born Aug. 2, 1871; Russel, born Nov. 28, 1873; Edwin, born May 4, 1875; Earl, born Oct. 8, 1878. Mr. Hulse was a son of David Hulse, who was born in New Jersey Aug. 13, 1794, and came to Ohio about the year 1820, and followed farming and weaving until his death, which occurred Nov. 24, 1844. He was married in Butler Co., Ohio, to Rebecca Russell, Jan. 22, 1824; she was born in 1807, in Butler Co., and is now living with her son at Ansonia, at the age of 72 years, enjoying good health, and in possession of all her faculties, and able to assist in light household duties. Mrs. Hulse is the daughter of Wm. Bonham, one of the old settlers of Darke Co.; he was born in New Jersey in 1815, and came here about the year 1836. He married Rebecca Rittenhouse, who was also a native of New Jersey; they are both now living.

D. F. HUNTER, blacksmith and wagon-maker, Ansonia; born in Darke Co., Ohio, Sept. 29, 1835; he was a son of Wm. Hunter, who was born in Warren Co., Ohio, and came here about the year 1825 and located in Greenville Township. He died about the year 1841; he was a member of Warren Lodge, No. 24, of Piqua, Ohio, for a period of one-fourth of a century. D. F. experienced a farmer's boyhood, and at 18 years of age he went to Warren Co., Ohio, and learned and worked at the blacksmith's trade some four years, and in 1858 he came to



Ansonia and started the above business, which he has since followed. He was married to Mary A. Dill May 6, 1839; she was born in Butler Co., Ohio. Sept. 25, 1837; they were the parents of three children, of whom two now survive—Martha L. and Cora M. Mrs. Hunter's father was John H. C. Dill, who was born in Germany March 16, 1805, and emigrated to America when quite young. He married Martha C. Liegment Nov. 17, 1834; she was born in Germany Oct. 23, 1815, and died March 7, 1858. Mr. Dill died April 2, 1865.

WM. B. MENDENHALL, retired tanner, merchant and farmer, Sec. 32; P. O. Woodington; born in Preble Co. June 22, 1820; he learned and worked at the tanner's trade until 20 years of age, when he came to Darke Co., in 1840, and located upon Sec. 32, Brown Township, where he purchased 4 acres of land for \$20, and in the purchase of the same incurred a debt of \$5 above his capital; he then followed the tanning business until 1853; upon July 4, 1847, he, with his brother, started the first store at Woodington, and continued his merchandise trade with different partners until 1876, when he disposed of his interest and retired from active business. Mr. Mendenhall came to Darke Co. with a capital of \$15—he now owns 400 acres of land, with four sets of farm buildings; also the warehouse at Woodington, all of which he has accumulated by his own energies. To him was given the honor of naming the station at Woodington; he was its first merchant and Postmaster, first Justice of the Peace, and Township Trustee one year. He was married in 1839 to Mary Bailey; she was born in Preble Co. in 1820; they were the parents of eight children, of whom four are now living, viz.: Rebecca A., now Mrs. W. H. Ganger; Hannah E., now Mrs. H. T. Martin; Thomas A. and Aleria B.

ISAAC E. MILLER, farmer and Justice of Peace, Sec. 30; P. O. Hetslerville, one of the old settlers of Darke Co., Ohio; was born in Adams Township April 8, 1840; he was a son of John P. Miller, one of the early pioneers of Adams Township, where he lived until his decease, March 4, 1841; he married Elizabeth Martin; she was born July 23, 1819, and is now living in Adams Township, at the advanced age of 60 years; her parents were among the early pioneers of the same township. Isaac E. Miller received his early education in an old log schoolhouse; the writing-desks consisted of boards laid upon pins, inserted in holes bored in logs; their benches were also of a very rude nature; his father died when he was 1 year of age, after which he was raised by his grandfather, and lived with him until he was 21 years of age, when he started in life for himself; he attended select school at Jaysville and Gettysburg, and followed teaching in the winter. Upon the 9th day of October, 1862, he was united in marriage with Sarah J. Sword, born in Miami Co., Ohio, Jan. 26, 1841; they have four children, viz.: Hannah E., born July 22, 1863; John W., born Feb. 11, 1866; Jonathan D., born March 7, 1869; George C., born April 15, 1874; after his marriage, Mr. Miller followed school teaching in winter, and farming in summer, until April 12, 1864, at which date he came to Brown Township and located upon his present place, which he had purchased the year previous at Sheriff's sale, for which he paid \$1,610, and where he has since lived; he now owns 117 acres, with good farm buildings. He is a Democrat in politics, and, while he has not aspired for office, he has held the office of Justice of the Peace twelve years during his residence here, also a Notary Public for six years.

J. J. PETERS, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 28; P. O. Ansonia. One of the old settlers; born in Germany March 31, 1836; at 3 years of age, he emigrated with his parents to America and to Ohio; his father, J. J. Peters, Sr., was born in France in 1795, and was a soldier under Napoleon several years; his youngest son now has the gun and sword carried by his father during his service; he was the father of fourteen children, and raised and brought them all to America; he purchased a farm in Ohio, upon which he lived until his death, which occurred Dec. 15, 1878, aged 83 years 8 months and 13 days; his physician's bills during his life amounted to \$250; he married, in France, Mary E. McKala; she died upon the





old home farm in the spring of 1871. The subject of this memoir remained with his father until 21 years of age, when he started in life for himself and farmed upon rented land for four years in Darke Co., and in 1862 he purchased 80 acres of his present place, to which he has since added until he now has 160 acres of land, well improved, all of which he has secured by his own hard labor, energy and industry, and has, by the above means, placed himself among the large landholders and successful farmers of Brown Township; he is now serving his second term as Township Trustee, is a member of Ansonia Lodge, No. 488, A., F. & A. M., and has held an office in the lodge for two years; he is also a member of Ansonia Lodge, No. 605, I. O. O. F., and Past Grand of the same. His marriage with Eliza J. Baughman was celebrated April 1, 1861; she was born in Brown Township, and is the daughter of J. Baughman, who emigrated from Prussia; he was a brother of William and Henry Baughman, whose sketch appears among the biographies of Brown Township; her mother was Maria Riffle, a sister of David and Silas Riffle, whose biographies also appear among the sketches of Brown Township; they have three children living, having lost four by death; the living are Mary E., Florence B. and Rachel L.

NOAH D. POLING, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 1; P. O. Ansonia: born in Perry Co., Ohio, Dec. 31, 1831; he was the second son of Daniel Poling, who was also a native of Perry Co., Ohio, born in 1809, and has lived in the same township for a period of seventy years. He married Maria Spoon; she was born in 1814, and died in July, 1878, aged upward of 63 years; they were the parents of thirteen children, nine now living—Noah D., remained with his father until he attained his majority, when he started in life for himself, and for four years worked for one man, most of the time running a saw-mill in Fairfield Co. Upon the 16th of December, 1855, he was united in marriage with Louisa E. Burstler, of Fairfield, Co., born July 20, 1834; they were the parents of thirteen children, of whom eleven are now living, viz., Isaac, George W., William T., Anna M., Harriet A., Louisa E., Frank, Jacob, James H., Gertrude M. and an infant; the deceased were infants; upon the marriage of Mr. Poling, he worked as farm laborer one year, after which he farmed upon rented land until 1861, when he came to Darke Co., and, after farming upon rented land two years, purchased 63 acres of his present place, and, in the fall of 1864, removed upon the same, where he has since lived; he now owns 120 acres of well-improved land, and his brick residence, erected in 1876, is admitted to be the best in the township; Mr. Poling commenced life with no capital save a strong arm and willing hand, and has, by his own hard labor and correct business habits, placed himself among the large property-holders and successful farmers of Brown Township. He is a Republican in politics, and has held the office of Constable for several years; in the spring of 1864, he enlisted in the 152d O. N. G., took part in several engagements in Virginia and Maryland, and was mustered out of service at Camp Dennison at the expiration of his enlistment.

SILAS RIFFLE, contractor and builder (firm of Riffle & Hager, Dallas, Ansonia; one of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born in Richland Township, April 27, 1828; he was a son of Jacob Riffle, who was born in Randolph Co., Va., in 1793; came to Montgomery Co., Ohio, with his parents in 1796. He married Mary Van Scoyk, and followed farming until 1818, when he came to Darke Co., and located in Richland Township, and was the second white family of the township; his father came from Virginia to Ohio with two children upon a pack-horse, Jacob being one of them, then 3 years of age; upon the above land Jacob Riffle died in the fall of 1853; Mrs. Riffle died in February, 1852. At 20 years of age, Silas commenced to learn the trade of a carpenter, and has since followed the same, with the exception of four years in the saw-mill business; he has assisted largely in the building of Dallas, and by his superintendence and labor half of the town has been constructed. In 1875, he associated with Orlander Hager, since which time he has conducted the business under the above firm name. He is a strong Republican, and





has been Assessor four years, Township Trustee one year, and held some other petty office. His marriage with Emeline Fogger was celebrated in 1852; she died in 1854; in 1859, he married Leah Schultz, a native of Dauphin Co., Penn., born March 23, 1832; they have two daughters and one son by this union—Florence M., born Nov. 5, 1860 (now teaching in the public schools of Dallas); Elmer O., born Dec. 27, 1862; Grace, born Nov. 18, 1863.

DAVID RIFFLE, retired farmer, Dallas; P. O. Ansonia; one of the early pioneers, and among the oldest continuous residents of Darke Co.; born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Nov. 2, 1816; he was a son of Jacob Riffle, a native of Randolph Co., Va., born in 1793, and emigrated with his parents to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1796, and in the year 1818, came to Darke Co., and located in Richland Township (this was the second white family of that township), and here he lived until his decease, which occurred in the fall of 1853, his wife having died in February, 1852. David Riffle was raised to agricultural pursuits, and followed school-teaching until 1841, when he came to Ansonia and purchased a farm and engaged in farming in summer, and school-teaching during the winter; he taught the first school in District No. 1 for three years; he has been almost continually in office for a period of forty years, having held the office of Justice of the Peace or Notary Public for that length of time, and has held all the township offices in Brown Township; his advantages for obtaining a school education were very limited, but, by devoting his spare time to study, he has been able to obtain a good education, and became master of the common branches of study, as well as surveying, and for several years did surveying in Brown Township; he has a recollection of his early playmates, who were little Indian children, with whom he passed many pleasant hours. Upon March 8, 1841, he was united in marriage with Mary Beeler, a native of Butler Co., Ohio; they were the parents of ten children, of whom five are now living, viz., Emma, James K., Sephrene, Mary J. and William E.

J. H. ROUSH, grain-dealer and manufacturer of staves, hubs, headings, etc., Dallas; P. O. Ansonia; another of our old settlers: born in Juniata Co., Penn., May 6, 1829; he received a common-school education, and was raised to agricultural pursuits until 22 years of age, when he came to Ohio, and located in Allen Co. in 1851, and was engaged in different pursuits until 1854; he then moved to Montgomery Co., and followed merchandising at West Baltimore until January, 1858, when he came to Darke Co., and engaged in the merchandise business some two years, after which he followed different branches of business until the fall of 1872, when he commenced buying grain, which business he has since followed, his shipments for the year 1878 amounting to upward of 120,000 bushels of corn, and about 50,000 bushels of wheat; when he located here there were some eighteen buildings of all kinds, no streets, no sidewalks and no turnpikes; he has represented nearly every branch of business known in Ansonia; he was Postmaster several years, his highest salary amounting to the enormous sum of \$84 per year; he was agent of the C., C. & I. R. R. for eighteen years, and received for his service a salary of from \$15 to \$85 per month; in 1876, he associated with two of his sons, and purchased the stave manufactory, which is now carried on under the name of the Ansonia Stave Co., the firm being composed of J. H. Roush, William A. Roush and Charles A. Roush, and they are extensively engaged in the manufacture of the above articles; the style of the firm as grain-dealers being, J. H. Roush & Son, John A. being the partner. The marriage of J. H. Roush with Mary J. Anderson, was celebrated Dec. 30, 1851; she was born in Juniata Co., Penn., Dec. 13, 1830; they have five sons—James H., Charles A., William A., John A. and Frank; all live at home, with the exception of Charles A., who is married, and resides in Ansonia.

JOHN S. ROYER, Dallas, P. O. Ansonia; Principal of the Dallas School, born in Union Co., Penn., Jan. 31, 1845; here he received a good common-school education, and at 15 years of age commenced teaching at 80 cents per day, for a



term of four months ; until about 19 years of age, he followed teaching during the winter, and assisted his father upon the farm the remainder of the year ; in 1864, he emigrated to Ohio, and located at Pleasant Hill, Miami Co., teaching the graded school at the above place one year ; in 1865, he came to Darke Co., and taught the Graded School No. 9, in Adams Township, for seven years ; in 1874, he came to Dallas, and accepted the position as Principal of the Dallas School, since which time it has increased from 100 to upward of 180 scholars ; he has been the Principal for five years, and now has a contract for three years. He has been twice married ; his first wife was Lutie Mitchell ; they were married April 18, 1867 ; she was born in Iowa ; she died in Darke Co., in 1869, leaving one child, Minnie A., born April 9, 1868 ; his marriage with Malinda G. Wenrick was celebrated Jan. 30, 1873 ; she was born in Darke Co. May 5, 1852 ; they have two children, Estella M., born July 24, 1876 ; Isaac R., born July 6, 1879 ; in December, 1878, he was appointed one of the examiners of the public schools for Darke Co., which position he now holds.

HENRY SCHLEMMER, firm of Bertz, Schlemmer & Co., hardware merchants, Ansonia ; born in Hesse, Germany, March 23, 1842, where he received a good education in German, and in 1860, emigrated to America, landing in Baltimore ; coming directly West, he followed blacksmithing two years in Cincinnati, and in October, 1862, enlisted in the 47th O. V. I. ; he was in many hard-fought battles, among which was the siege and capture of Vicksburg and Atlanta, battle of Chattanooga, and with Sherman's army on his march through Georgia to the sea, arriving at Savannah to spend the Christmas of 1864 ; he then marched north, through the Carolinas, and was with Sherman's army at the surrender of Johnson, after which, he marched through Richmond to Washington, where, after the grand review of the army, he returned to Columbus, and received his discharge, having served in the Union army nearly three years ; he was wounded at the battle of Jonesboro, but kept at his post ; he then followed blacksmithing in Cincinnati until 1867, when he came to Ansonia and followed his trade until 1879, when he became a partner in the above firm. Mr. Schlemmer arrived in this country with a capital of only \$7 ; he has made one trip to his native country, upon a visit to his parents, with whom he remained three months ; his father, John Schlemmer, was born in Hesse, in 1804 ; he married Martha Disher ; they are the parents of six children, three of whom are now living in Germany, and three in America. In 1868, George Schlemmer was united in marriage to Mary Baughman, a native of Darke Co., and a daughter of Simeon Baughman, one of the early pioneers ; they have five children, viz., John, George, Frank, Augustus and Elizabeth.

FRANCIS M. TULLIS, resides in Dallas ; manufacturer of tile, Ansonia ; born in Brown Township, Darke Co., Ohio, Sept. 26, 1854 ; he was the youngest son of Milton Tullis, who was born in Miami Co., Ohio, March 29, 1813. He married, in Ohio, Sarah Marshall, Sept. 5, 1848, who was born in Pennsylvania Feb. 20, 1816 ; they came to Darke County about the year 1849, and located in Brown Township, near Dallas ; followed farming and merchandise till his death, which occurred Aug. 26, 1863. Mrs. Tullis died Jan. 12, 1870 ; they were the parents of five children, of whom three are living—Francis M., Cordelia A. (now Mrs. Dr. Samuel Hostetter), and Olive D. (now Dr. L. C. Anderson), all living in Dallas ; Francis M. obtained a common-school education, and followed clerking in Dallas until the spring of 1877, when he engaged in farming, and in the fall of 1878, purchased the tile factory of Reed & White, at Dallas, and has since devoted his attention to the above business, manufacturing tile of the best quality ; his sales the first year amounted to some \$3,000 ; his business card will be found in the business directory of Ansonia, in another part of this work ; he has, aside from his factory, a farm of 42 acres joining the corporation of Dallas, and his lots and residence in town. His marriage with Margaret A. Burket was celebrated May 29, 1877 ; she was born in Darke Co., Ohio, May 15, 1857.





**JAMES S. WEBSTER**, merchant, Ansonia, resides in Dallas. The subject of this memoir, a native of Fayette Co., Ohio, was born Jan. 1, 1820 ; he was a son of Dr. James Webster, who was born in Pennsylvania, and emigrated to Ohio and Fayette County in 1804, two years after its admission into the Union as a State ; he was consequently one of the early pioneers of the State ; he followed the practice of medicine a short time in Fayette County, and in 1815 he was elected Sheriff of the county, and about the year 1829, was Associate Judge, which office he held several years, after which he was Treasurer of the county for four years. The latter part of his life he devoted to the carding and fulling of wool at his factory at Washington ; his death occurred January, 1837 ; he was married in Kentucky, to Amelia Dauson ; she died previous to her husband. J. S. Webster worked in the woolen-mill of his father, until the decease of the latter, after which he followed farming some two years, when he engaged in the trade of harness-maker at Mt. Sterling until 1866, when he came to Darke County, and, after following his trade one year in Greenville, purchased a farm of 114 acres in Greenville Township, three miles south of Dallas, and followed farming until the spring of 1879, when he rented his farm and purchased a residence in Dallas, and engaged in the general merchandise with T. B. White. His marriage with Pamela Loof-bourrow was celebrated June 18, 1845 ; she was born in Fayette Co., Ohio, in 1827. eight children were born to them ; five are now living—Nathan A., produce merchant, of Greenville ; William, living at home ; Hannah, now Mrs. T. B. White ; Linden, clerk in his father's store ; Laura, living at home. Mr. Webster has been a member of the Baptist Church for a period of fifteen years ; Mrs. W. also a member of the same church.

**THOMAS B. WHITE**, firm of T. B. White & Co., general merchant, Ansonia ; another of the old settlers of Darke Co. ; born in Brown Township, Darke Co., upon the 23d of July, 1842 ; he was a son of William White, of the State of New York, who came to Darke Co. in 1822 ; the maiden name of his wife was Esther Stahl ; she came to Richland Township with her parents about the year 1820, and is now living upon the old homestead, a little north of Ansonia ; Mr. White died in 1864. Thomas B. White was raised to agricultural pursuits until 19 years of age, when, upon the 6th of August 1862, he enlisted in the 94th O. V. I., and went forward to battle for the Union ; in his first severe engagement, he, with a large part of his regiment, were captured, but he, with many others, escaped and again joined the Union army. he was then engaged in the battle of Perryville, and at the fight of Stone River Dec. 31, 1862 ; he was severely wounded, and lay in hospital until May, 1863, when he received his discharge on account of disability ; he then returned home, and, on account of his wounds, lay idle until the fall of 1864, when he engaged in school-teaching for three years, and in the fall of 1868, he engaged in the general merchandise trade at Ansonia, which he has since successfully followed ; in 1875, he associated with J. S. Webster, under the above firm name, carrying a large and complete stock ; a card of their business will be found in the business directory of Ansonia, in this work. His marriage nuptials with Hannah Webster were celebrated in 1875 ; she was born in Madison Co., Ohio, and is a daughter of J. S. Webster, whose sketch also appears in this work ; they have one child, Lucy F., born Dec. 15, 1876.





**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP.**

**LAWSON ALLEN**, farmer ; P. O. Arcanum : was born in Centerville, Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1842 ; his parents were John and Susannah Allen ; John was born in the same place as his son, and his wife, Susannah, was born in Scioto Co., Ohio, in 1822 ; they were the parents of twelve children, and only four are living, viz., Lawson, Jeremiah, Joseph M. and Mary. Lawson Allen, the oldest and the subject of this sketch, was united in marriage on April 22, 1868, to Mariah Montgomery, daughter of Robert and Harriet Montgomery ; Robert was born in Pennsylvania and his wife in Virginia, came to Ohio and settled in a very early day ; Mr. Allen lived and followed farming in Montgomery Co. until October, 1873, when he moved upon his farm where he now lives ; they have only one child born them, a girl, now 11 years of age, named Florence. Mr. Allen owns 89 acres of fine land, about 60 acres of which are in good cultivation. He was one of the patriots of the war of the rebellion, and enlisted in the 131st O. V. I. Co. I., under Col. John G. Lowe, and served till honorably discharged. Mr. Allen is not one of the earliest settlers, but has been here about six years, and is one of the representative men of Van Buren Township, and will, we are satisfied, be an accession and credit to the neighborhood in which he lives ; he is an active member of the M. E. Church, to which he has belonged since 1867 ; thus, while living and toiling for this world, he is also preparing for that better one beyond.

**S. W. ALLREAD**, farmer and merchant ; P. O. Delisle ; the son of Isaac and Lucy Allread ; Isaac was born in Maryland, and moved with his parents to North Carolina, where he remained till he came to Butler Co. when he was 18 years of age ; he was in the war of 1812, and served all through it, and then returned safely home. Lucy, his wife, was born in the State of Vermont, and came with her parents to Butler Co., Ohio, when 9 years of age ; they were united in marriage in 1816, and raised seven children, four boys and three girls. Mr. Allread, the subject of this sketch, was the eldest of his father's family ; he left home when 11 years of age, and worked at various places until 16 years of age, when his father bound him out to Capt. Samuel Dick, till 21 years of age, in Butler Co., Ohio, where he lived till he became of age, then worked for him two years longer for wages ; he then worked here and there and rented farms till he was 27 years of age, which was in 1843, when he was united in marriage with Martha Ann Van Lieu, who was born and raised in Butler Co. ; they followed farming in that county for twelve years, or till 1855, when they moved to Darke Co., Van Buren Township, where he still followed the life of a farmer for four years, when he entered into the mercantile trade, which, together with farming, he has followed to the present time ; he has bought and sold several farms, and by these transactions made considerable money ; he is now the owner of 87 acres of good land in Delisle, where he now lives ; he is associated in the mercantile trade in Delisle with W. Reed, and is also carrying on an extensive trade in buying and shipping grain. Mr. Allread started in life a poor man, and with but little education, and has worked his way up to the possessions and prominence he now has—all accomplished by his good management and industry ; he is now 63 years of age, with good health, and will doubtless still climb upward and onward, and enjoy the society of his family ; he is the father of nine children, seven now living, viz., Isaac F., Elvira, Oliver M., George D., Amanda, John E. and Tabitha J. ; five are married and two single at home. Mr. Allread has taken quite an active part in political matters, being a staunch Democrat, and having held several offices of trust, as Township Trustee, Assessor and Treasurer, and in the county has been Infirmary Director for six years, thus showing that he has the confidence of the community.



**CHRISTOPHER BRINEY**, farmer and Justice of the Peace ; P. O. Delisle was born Jan. 2, 1811, in Warren Co., Ohio ; his parents were Adam and Euphemia Briney, who came from Pennsylvania at an early day, and located in Ohio ; Squire Briney came to Darke Co. in 1835, being among the earliest settlers of the county. He was married in 1835, to Mary Mills, daughter of John V. and Elizabeth Mills ; she was born in Pennsylvania in 1816, and emigrated to this county with her parents when quite an infant ; to them have been born fourteen children, eight of them are now living, viz., Ellen, Emeline, Adam, Silas P., Herod M. and Israel (twins), Mary E. and Joseph M. Squire Briney lost his wife by death Sept. 15, 1874. In about three years after Squire Briney's marriage, being in 1837, they moved on the farm on which he now lives and commenced to open out a farm and make a home, with no capital but a few dollars ; he has now 260 acres of land, and, his sons and daughters all being grown up and married, he has divided up and deeded a portion of land to each child, simply reserving a life-estate and control of the same during his lifetime, thus giving each child a better start in life than he had when he commenced ; this has all been accomplished by his energy and industry, and made from the wilderness, which then, in his early commencement, existed through this section, for which he deserves great credit, as one of the pioneers. Squire Briney has always been an active politician, and always held office since he lived in the township, such as Township Trustee, Clerk, Supervisor, School Director, etc. ; has been Justice of the Peace for twenty-one years, thus showing the prominence and confidence he holds in the community in which he lives. He is now 69 years of age, and of course the most active part of his life is spent, but he has left a record and history of success and confidence for his children and future generations worthy of their imitation.

**JACOB M. BROWN**, farmer ; P. O. Delisle ; was born the 1st of April, 1833, in Darke Co., on an adjoining farm in Neave Township ; he is the son of Caleb Brown, who was born in Tennessee, and with his father came to Indiana, near Liberty, in about 1812, where they remained about one year, and then came and located in Darke Co., where they remained till the death of his father ; at that time it was a perfect wilderness, there being but two or three settlers in the neighborhood, and of course had to pass through all the hardships incident to such a life. Mr. Brown, the subject of this sketch, was united in marriage with Elizabeth Eddington, in 1854, daughter of Charles Eddington, who with his father, were among the first settlers of the county ; since which three children have been born to them, and all are now living. Mr. Brown has been a very prominent man in business, having, in connection with his labors on the farm, carried on quite an extensive trade in grain, buying and shipping very largely, last year shipping over 400 car loads ; also buying and shipping much stock, and was at one time quite extensively engaged in merchandising, all of which has given him an acquaintance and prominence in the community second, perhaps, to no other man in the township ; he is also one of those who has amassed a fair and comfortable competency by his own industry, hard labor and careful management of business, and who as an example of a devoted and industrious worker and careful manager, stands forth as a bright and shining light, worthy of the admiration of all young men.

**JOHN H. CORWIN**, farmer ; P. O. Arcanum ; was born in Warren Co., Ohio in 1819 ; he was the son of Mathias and Margaret Corwin ; Mathias was born in Kentucky ; his father's name was Joseph Corwin, who was a native of Pennsylvania ; Margaret's father's name was Shnorf, and he was a native of Germany. Mr. Corwin the subject of this sketch, was united in marriage in 1842, with Maria Weaver daughter of Larken and Susan Weaver, who are further spoken of in the sketch of William Weaver ; they first settled in Preble Co., Ohio, but moved from there to this county in 1855, and located upon the place on which he now lives ; they have had born to them six children, five of whom are now living, viz., Mary Jane, born Jan. 30, 1843 ; Mathias, born April 24, 1847 ; Abigail, born April 13, 1849 ; Susan M., born Nov. 10, 1853, and William O., born June 28, 1860 ; and all are married





and settled in life except the youngest, who is still single and living at home. When Mr. Corwin located in 1855 upon his present farm, there was but very little cleared up; he had to commence and clear up and improve, and in doing so, of course went through all the hardships incident to the opening of a farm in a new country, and particularly so, as he started with the small capital of 80 acres of unimproved land; but by hard labor and diligently attending to business, he has increased in property and wealth, until now he is the owner of 535 acres of land, with good buildings, and everything for the convenience and comfort of life; and, in connection with this, he has paid \$2,100 for free pikes, and \$1,600 for ditching and draining; this has all been accomplished since 1855, which has certainly been sufficient to declare Mr. Corwin a model farmer and business man; Mr. Corwin has always taken an active part in political matters, being a staunch Republican, but has never desired or held office; we feel justified, in summing up this brief sketch of Mr. Corwin, to say that he is most truly a representative man of Van Buren Township, and one worthy of imitation by all young men, for all generations in future, and desire thus to place his record upon the pages of this history, there to remain for all time to come.

WILLIAM DAVIS, carpenter. Arcanum; was born in Butler Co., Ohio, in 1821; he is the son of Hugh and Christi Ann Davis: Hugh was born in South Carolina, and his wife in Virginia; they came to Ohio, with their parents, in a very early day, so early that at that time they could enter Government land, near Cincinnati, at \$1.25 per acre. Mr. Davis, the subject of this sketch, came to Darke Co. in 1856; he was married in 1849, to Mary Ann Shaffer, daughter of David and Susannah Shaffer, who were born in Pennsylvania: Mary Ann came with her parents to Ohio in an early day; they are the parents of eight children, seven of whom are living, viz., John W., David, Susanna, William H., Pharan, Mary Jane and Thomas. When Mr. Davis first came to this county, he located in Butler Township, where he remained one year, and then moved to Van Buren Township; he located at his present place of residence in 1861; when he came here, he opened out in the woods, and built a small house, and, in order to move into it, had to cut a road through the woods to get to his house; he has 1 acre of land, and since he came there has cleared it up and built a comfortable house and barn, so that he has a pleasant little home. He has always followed the trade of a carpenter, and has had the pleasure of seeing the country improve around him, and the old log buildings of the early settlers disappear, and fine frame and brick buildings take their place; and he, as a good mechanic, has had a goodly share of the work to do.

WILLIAM DREW, farmer; P. O. Delisle; was born in Van Buren Township in 1834, and is the son of Robert Drew, who was born in New Jersey, March 29, 1807, and moved to Darke Co. about 1825, and located here when there were but few settlers in the township. Mr. Drew, the subject of our sketch, was the third of twelve children, five sons and seven daughters, nine of whom are now living. Mr. Drew was united in marriage to Mary Bitner, daughter of John Bitner; she was born in Darke Co. March 9, 1837; they first settled at Delisle, on the place now owned by S. W. Allread, where they remained two years; then moved to a farm in the neighborhood for a short time, then back again, and engaged in merchandising about six months; then sold out and moved to present place of residence, where they have since resided and followed farming, except two years, in which he was in mercantile trade in Delisle. They are parents of nine children, six of whom are now living, viz., Rosetta, Abraham, Franklin, Elmer, Nora and Edward. Mr. Drew has gained a good competency, being owner of 280 acres of excellent land, all except 80 acres of which were made by his own energy and industry. Mr. Drew is at present Township Treasurer, thus showing not only that with his industry and perseverance he has accumulated quite a property, but also has the confidence of the community in which he lives, by the trust they have placed in his hands; this being another example to the rising generation of what indefatigable industry, together with honorable dealings with his fellow-men, may accomplish.





Mr. Drew is a member of the United Brethren Church, with which he has been identified since 1867.

**POLLY FORD**; P. O. Jaysville; Polly Ford was the wife of Mordecai S. Ford, who was born in Kentucky in 1807, and came to this county with his mother when quite young, his father having died while in the Indian war. Mr. Ford remained with his mother until the year 1829, when he was united in marriage with Polly Tillman, daughter of John Tillman, and located near her father's, just over the line in Preble Co., where they lived about two years, then bought the land upon which she now resides; they moved here into a little log house, and just a few trees cleared away, so as to give a foot-hold for future labor in clearing up a farm; Mr. Ford took hold with an indomitable will to make a home and to try to gain some of the comforts of life; and coupled with this, and during the most of his life, while struggling for the temporal interests of his family, he was not unmindful of his spiritual interests, and those of his family and the community in which he mingled, having given his life early to Christ, and taking upon himself as his disciple to preach the Gospel to his dying fellow-men, in which work he remained until his death; he also realized the importance of education, and was engaged more or less as a teacher in the public schools; he educated and qualified each and every one of his children, who all became teachers. During all these labors, Mr. Ford brought his farm of 160 acres most of it into good cultivation, erected a good brick house, barn and other buildings convenient and comfortable; all this was done by indefatigable toil and industry; and finally, his labors being done, at the call of his Divine Master, whom he had served so long and faithfully, he departed this life Nov. 23, 1867, to reap the reward of his labors in that better land "from whose bourn no traveler returns," and where no toils or cares ever come. They were the parents of fourteen children, nine of whom are now living, viz.; John, Henry, Delilah, Nancy, Worley, Martha, Royston, Mary and Lydia A. M.; all married and settled in life except John, Mary and Lydia, the two latter remaining at home with their mother: four of the sons became practicing physicians. Mrs. Ford is now 70 years of age, enjoying very good health, and may live many years yet to enjoy the fruits of their united labors, and the society of her kind and loving children.

**LEVI FOURMAN**, farmer; P. O. Arcanum; was born in Darke Co., in 1852; is a son of John and Sarah Fourman; John was born in Pennsylvania and Sarah in Montgomery Co., Ohio; they came to this county in an early day, as given in sketch of John Fourman in this book. Levi Fourman was married in 1876 to Sarah Reichard, daughter of William and Nancy C. Reichard, who were from Preble Co., Ohio; they have one child, viz., Lily Florence; Levi is the fifth child of John Fourman, who when married, located where he now lives, upon 80 acres of fine land given him by his father, and upon which he has built a good two-story frame house, and a large barn and other buildings for convenience and comfort, and is now as well fixed to live comfortable and happy as many who have toiled for years to make their home; and, if he follows the footsteps of his father in industry and good management, he will in all probability become a wealthy and prominent citizen of his township.

**JOHN FOURMAN**, farmer; P. O. Arcanum; was born in Pennsylvania in 1820; his parents were John and Catharine Fourman, both natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. Fourman came to this county with his parents, where they lived and died; he was the second in a family of eight children, all of whom are living. He was married in 1845 to Sarah, daughter of Jacob and Sarah Baker, both born in Pennsylvania. John and Sarah Fourman have had born to them fifteen children, twelve of whom are now living, viz., Susannah, Jacob, Henry, Levi, Sarah, Samuel, Ananias, David, John, Allen, Emanuel and Elizabeth. They located on the farm, where they now live, in 1846; they cut the first stick of timber, made an opening, and built a small frame house with lumber sawed from a mill of their own "put up" when they first entered the county; from this beginning they toiled



on, enduring the hardships and deprivations, gradually making improvements, till now he has 241 acres of land ; he at one time had 1,000 acres of land, but has given to his children, to settle on, all but the 241 acres, which he still owns ; thus showing what an immense amount of labor has been performed, what an amount of property accumulated, and what a fine start he has given his children in life. This industrious and useful life of theirs will stand upon record on the pages of this history as a memorial for their children and their children's children, for all time to come.

GEORGE MARKER, farmer and gunsmith ; P. O. Gettysburg ; was born in 1830 in Montgomery Co., Ohio ; his parents were Jacob and Sarah Marker ; Jacob was born in Maryland in 1803, and Sarah in Montgomery Co., Ohio ; her maiden name was Shively, and she was born in 1809 ; they came to this county in 1835. Mr. Marker, the subject of this sketch, was married, in 1852, to Lydia Ebert, who was born in 1835 ; she was the daughter of William and Mary Ebert, who came from Pennsylvania at an early day ; they have had born to them eleven children, eight of whom are now living, viz., Isaac, Luther, Mary Elizabeth, Anna Jane, George Calvin, Dora Margaret, Jacob Wm. and Lewis Hiram. They located upon the farm where they now reside, containing 55 acres of land, with not a stick of timber cut ; cleared out a small piece of land, put up a log cabin, and thus made a foothold to what is now their home, and then continued to work on, clearing up and improving, as time and means would permit, till now they have a good farmhouse, a large, fine barn, and other buildings convenient and comfortable, 40 acres cleared and well cultivated. When he commenced life, he had about \$700, and from this start he has accumulated a handsome property by hard labor and industry, which we can place upon the pages of this book as a worthy example to the young and rising generation.

J. B. MEHAFFIE, farmer ; P. O. Delisle ; was born in Cumberland Co., Penn., May 27, 1826, being the eldest of seven children, three boys and four girls, the brothers dying shortly after reaching their manhood, unmarried, and leaving no heirs ; but the four sisters are all living ; his parents were John and Elizabeth Mehaffie ; they are natives of Pennsylvania, the former was born in 1800, the latter in 1803 ; his grandparents were John and Martha Mehaffie ; the grandfather was a cosmopolite, being born upon the Atlantic Ocean, his parents being then on their way from Ireland to America, he being one of four children ; the grandmother was born in Juniata Co., Penn. ; her maiden name was Hoag ; the grandfather was born about 1763, and the grandmother about 1770 ; the grandfather dying about 1838, and the grandmother in 1846 ; the father of the subject of this sketch, died in October, 1854 ; his mother is still living. Mr. Mehaffie came to Preble Co., Ohio, in 1851 ; remained about three years, then returned to Pennsylvania, where he was united in marriage, in the same year, to Eleanor, daughter of John and Margaret Vanasden, both natives of Pennsylvania ; her mother was the daughter of William and Rebecca Steele, who emigrated from Ireland in an early day, and came to this county with one child ; Rebecca Steele was the daughter of Taggart ; Mr. Mehaffie returned with his wife to Preble Co., Ohio, where they lived about three years ; then moved to Montgomery Co., where they remained till August, 1872, when they came to Darke Co., on the farm on which they now reside ; Mr. Mehaffie was favored with a good education, and before he was of age he took the honorable and useful occupation of teaching school, which occupation he has followed every year for thirty years, not missing one winter during that time, but what he was in the school-room ; during this time, when not engaged in teaching, was raising tobacco and farming ; the farm upon which he now lives, consisting of 80 acres, he purchased of John Smith, of Arcanum, at a cost of \$5,000, in 1872, with no buildings except a small log-house ; Mehaffie has since built a large addition to the house, and has built a fine large barn and other outbuildings for convenience and comfort ; has greatly improved and cleared up the land, till now he has a fine farm, with 65 acres in good cultivation ; they have had born to them six children,





all now living, viz., Horace W., William C., Margaretta, Elizabeth, Clara E. and Myrta, the oldest, Horace, being married and settled in life, and the others yet single and at home; Mr. Mehaffie has never desired or taken any active part in political matters; he is now, however, Township Clerk; Mr. Mehaffie and wife are active members of the United Brethren Church, having been members of the same for twenty years.

**JOSEPH GORDON MILLER**, carpenter and farmer, Sec. 2; P. O. Poplar Ridge; son of John Phillips Miller and Rachel Baldwin, was born about five miles northwest from Taneytown, Carroll Co., Md., July 12, 1824, and settled in Adams Township, September, 1845. Was united in marriage with Rachel Trowbridge, in Van Buren Township, Sept. 20, 1849; children's names—John W. T., David B., Albert F., Eleonor J., Simon F., James H., Rachael M. J. In the fall of 1845, was examined by David Beers, John Wharry and Dr. Briggs and from them received a certificate to teach school; was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace August, 1859, and served six terms; served five or six terms as Trustee of this township; when the militia was organized, was elected Captain for this township, and received his commission. Has been a resident of Sec. 2, Van Buren Township, since 1822.

**JOHN J. OSWALT**, farmer; P. O. Arcanum; a native of Germany; was born in 1836; he is the son of Martin and Anna M. Oswalt. Mr. Oswalt came to America in 1852, when 16 years of age; after being here about eighteen months, he returned to Germany for his mother and two sisters, his father being dead; brought them here and located in Franklin Township, this county, in 1854. He was united in marriage in 1862, to Elizabeth, daughter of Elias and Mary Baker, who were both natives of Montgomery Co., Ohio; they have had eleven children, all living, viz., Delilah, Elias, Sarah, Anna Magdalene, Mary Ellen, John Henry, Morton, Lydia, Elizabeth, Charles Ellsworth and William David; they located upon the farm upon which they now live, the next spring after they were married, having at that time bought 80 acres all in the woods; this was the beginning in clearing up the land to make a home, and by industry and hard labor they have now a fine farm, having bought 80 acres more, making in all 160 acres of good land, and about 115 acres in a good state of cultivation; this has all been accomplished, together with raising a large family of children, by diligent and earnest labor, coupled with good management and frugality; and we are pleased to place this record upon the pages of this history, as a bright and shining example which may be read by his children's children, and all future generations, in all time to come.

**ALLEN PEARSON**, farmer; P. O. Jaysville; one of the old pioneers of Darke Co.; was born in South Carolina in 1806, and when about 6 years of age, came with his mother (his father having died when he was but an infant), to Ohio and settled in Warren Co., where he remained till about 15 years of age, when they settled in Darke Co.; at the time Mr. Pearson came here, it was a perfect wilderness; in most directions there were no settlers within twelve to fifteen miles of him, and many Indians roamed through the forests; at that time, they would pack their corn to mill for a distance of twenty miles or more. Mr. Pearson was united in marriage in 1827, to Mary, daughter of Moses Arnold, also from South Carolina, who came here prior to Mr. Pearson, hence making them among the very oldest settlers of Darke Co.; to their eleven children have been born, of whom only four are now living, viz., Maria, Mary Ann, Edney and Westley; the children are married and settled in life, the three daughters in this county, and Westley in Illinois. Mr. Pearson and wife are among those industrious old pioneers, who came here poor and endured all the hardships incident to such life, in fact, endured perhaps more than most of other residents; as an illustration—when they came here they constructed a little log hut, with an opening to answer for an entrance, and hung up an old quilt for a door; this was early in the summer of 1818; the floor of the house was the "mother earth;" they had no chimney, but built their fire on the ground, in the middle of the room; in this manner, they lived till fall, when some little improvements were made; from this





commencement, step by step, they advanced along life's journey, gradually making such improvements as their wants and means demanded and would justify, till, at the present time, they have 200 acres of land, and about three-quarters of it under cultivation, a good brick house, good barns, etc., with all necessary comforts of life, thus being an example to rising generations of what industry, coupled with frugality, will accomplish.

**WILLIAM ROBESON**, farmer; P. O. Jaysville; was born in Huntingdon Co., Penn., in 1817; came with his father to Ohio in the same year, being only 2 months old; his father, David Robeson, located first on the Miami River, about eight miles below Dayton, where he remained about sixteen years, when, in 1833, he moved to Darke Co. and located in Butler Township, where he lived till his death, which occurred three years after, or in 1836. Mr. Robeson, the subject of this sketch, resided on the home place about seventeen years. He was married to Esther Dongan in 1849; she was the daughter of Isaac Dongan and was born in Butler Co. in 1828. In 1852, Mr. Robeson bought the farm upon which he now resides and moved on to it the same year, there being about 30 acres cleared and a small cabin erected upon the same; by hard labor and industry, he now has a fine farm of 140 acres, 85 acres being under cultivation. There have been thirteen children born to them, and only four of them now living, viz., Isaac D., Eliza D., Mary Ann and Ida Ellen May; two are married, and two remain single at home. His wife died in May, 1874, since which time his daughters have taken charge of his household affairs. Mr. Robeson has accumulated all his present wealth by dint of his own exertion, with the exception of 40 acres, which he received from his father; he gave his only son a start in life by giving him 44 acres of land; he is now married and settled upon the same. Mr. Robeson is now past 62 years of age, and enjoying good health, and may live many years to enjoy the fruits of his labors, and, perhaps, to add to his possessions.

**PATRICK SHIELDS**, farmer; P. O. Delisle; was born in Preble County, Ohio, in 1831; his parents, Isaac and Elizabeth Shields, had born unto them thirteen children, of whom ten are now living; his father and mother were natives of Preble County. Mr. Shields was the second child of his parents, and came with them to Darke County in 1838, and located in Van Buren Township, where he has lived to the present time, with the exception of three years, in which he lived north of here about fifteen miles. In 1853, Mr. Shields was united in marriage with Mary J., daughter of Caleb and Mary Brown; to them have been born eight children, all of whom are now living, three boys and five girls, viz., Nancy, Mary Alice, Caleb, Elizabeth, William L., Laura May, Ada and Donovan F. Mr. Shields, though not one of the oldest, but yet an early settler, says he remembers well of the many hunts after wolves, bears and various kinds of game, which were then so plentiful; Mr. Shields commenced farming twenty-seven years ago, with a capital of \$80, one cow and half a dozen chickens, and from this small beginning has, by industry, frugality, skill and management, advanced step by step toward success, till now he is the owner of 221 acres of land, all under cultivation, and as good land as any in the township; has a good, two-story frame house, nearly new, and everything convenient and comfortable. During all this labor, Mr. Shields paid in support of the war of the rebellion about \$1,600; he is still a man in middle age, and, with the fine competency he has obtained, the ability with which he handles his means, the industrious habits, and interesting family he has to help him on, he will in all probability arise to a prominence among the residents of the county; he is a living example in correct business habits for his children and future generations in time to come.

**ISAAC M. SHIELDS**, farmer; P. O. Arcanum; was born in this county and township in 1846; his parents were Isaac and Elizabeth Shields, natives of Preble County, further record of whom is made in sketch of Patrick Shields. Mr. Shields was married in 1864 to Ellen, daughter of Mathias and Amanda Weaver, further record of whom is made in sketch of Amanda Weaver. Mr. Shields



has always followed farming, having bought and sold several farms, upon which he lived for longer or shorter times, until, in the spring of 1874, he bought the farm where he now lives, and moved on to it in spring of 1875, since which he has built a large brick house, a very fine barn and made other improvements, and has now one of the finest residences in the township. When Mr. Shields started in life, he had no capital of any amount; he is now owner of 280 acres of land, 220 now under good cultivation; this large property with all improvements he has become owner of by his own activity, industry and shrewd management, and is still a young man of 33 years of age, just in the prime of life; and, should his health be spared, he has every prospect of becoming one of the wealthiest men of the township. He is the father of seven children, six being now living, viz., Amanda E., Isaac Mathias-Susanna, Minnie Rosella, Elva Mariah and William Ray. He was one of those who, at the call of his country during the rebellion, allowed his patriotism to carry him forward to its defense; he enlisted early in the war in 1862, in the 110th Regiment, in Company B, O. V. L. and served through the war, returning safely to his loved ones at home. In this sketch, we are pleased to put upon the pages of the history of Darke County one of its citizens, a young man whose record shall stand a bright and shining light of industry, success and true patriotism to his children and children's children, and all future generations, as a worthy example to follow; and if they do follow it, it will lead to the sure road to success and prosperity.

**WILLIAM TOWNSEND**, farmer; P. O. Jaysville; was born in Neave Township in 1830; his father, James Townsend, was born in South Carolina, and emigrated to Ohio in an early day, and located in Greene County, where he remained a few years, then moved to Darke Co., Neave Township, where he lived until his death; his settlement in the county was in the days of the pioneers, there being but few settlements in the neighborhood; he was the father of six children, four of whom are now living. William Townsend, the subject of this sketch, was the youngest of the family; he lived with his father till his death, which occurred when he was about 17 years of age; then he remained with his mother till after her death. He was united in marriage in 1854, with Elizabeth, daughter of Jonas Hartzell; she was born in Pennsylvania, and came to this county with her father when she was about 2 years of age; since their marriage, they have been blessed with six children, all of whom are now living; Mr. Townsend has followed the honest and honorable occupation of farming during his life, with the exception of about three years, in which he was engaged in the milling business; he has, by his own labor and industry, with a small inheritance from his father, obtained a competency, having a fine quarter-section of land, mostly under cultivation. He is a prominent and active member of the United Brethren Church, with which he has been connected for five years, and has had the pleasure of seeing the three oldest of his children become worthy members of the church. Thus, while working and accumulating this world's goods, he is also in the higher and nobler work of trying to lay up treasures in heaven, and training up those under his charge in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord."

**ALFRED TOWNSEND**, farmer; P. O. Jaysville; was born in Van Buren Township in 1834, on the place now owned by William Townsend; his parents were Jonathan and Susanna Townsend. He was married in 1856, to Mary A. daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth Shields; she was born in 1833 in Preble Co., Ohio, and moved with her parents to this county in 1836, being then about 3 years of age; she is the third in a family of ten children. Mr. Townsend was of a family of four children, having two sisters and a half-brother, he being the youngest of the three first born. After Mr. Townsend was married, he followed farming on rented farms till 1868, when he bought 80 acres, on which he now lives; he added 40 acres to it in 1875, making him now owner of 120 acres. They are the parents of ten children, four boys and six girls, all of whom are living, and ranging from 3 to 23 years of age, viz., Sarah E., Andrew J., William H., Ida May, Mary Bell,





Isaac Edward, Josephine, Effaretta, George Alfred and Martha Ford. Mr. Townsend is one of those who has had his "ups and downs;" he was early thrown upon his own resources, but had been favored with a good education; has followed teaching school nearly every winter; he first taught school before he was 16 years of age; he has now a good farm of 85 acres in cultivation, with good buildings, very comfortable and convenient; he has held several township offices, such as Assessor, Clerk and Trustee, thus showing that not only has he been successful in life, but has the confidence of the community in which he lives by the trusts confided in him. Mr. Townsend is one of those who, during the late war—the rebellion—took up arms in the defense of his country's rights and its flag, having enlisted in the 152d O. V. I. Co. I., entering as Orderly Sergeant, in which capacity he served four months; he was then promoted to First Lieutenant in the O. N. G., in which he served till honorably discharged, thus proving himself a true soldier and a patriot in time of his country's danger.

AMANDA WALKER; P. O. Arcanum; was the wife of Mathias Weaver, who was born in Preble Co., Ohio, in 1821, and Amanda Weaver was born in Butler Co., Ohio, in 1828; his father, Larkin Weaver, was a native of Virginia; Mrs. Weaver's father, Lewis Blackman, was a native of England, who came to this country at an early day. Mathias Weaver was married to Amanda Blackman in 1844, and moved to Darke Co., Van Buren Township, about 1845, and located on the place upon which she now lives; the land was then all a wilderness; they cut away the timber and built a little log house, so as to shelter them from the weather, with a few boards up in the loft, where they kept their meat and provisions, etc; from this beginning, they labored on until 1873; they then had a good farm of about 100 acres, nearly all in cultivation. Mr. Weaver was taken sick, and died Oct. 26, 1873; since which time she has remained a widow, and carried on farming with industry and ability, which has enabled her to keep her family together with her, and to enjoy the home and comforts which they had by their united efforts and industry obtained prior to his death. They were the parents of nine children, all of whom are living, viz., Ellen, Emma, Maria, Mary Jane, Susan, Lydia Ann, Lucinda Josephine, Lewis Edward and William Harvey; four are married and settled in life; the other five single and at home with their mother, to cheer her on her way through the journey of life. We should mention that they had accumulated 130 acres of land prior to Mr. Weaver's death, 80 acres of which has been divided among the four married children—thus giving them a capital on which to begin their business life.

WILLIAM WEAVER, farmer; P. O. Arcanum; was born in Madison Co., Va., in 1812; his parents were Larkin and Susannah Weaver. Mr. Weaver came to Preble Co., Ohio, with his parents in 1820, and then moved to Darke Co., Van Buren Township, and entered 80 acres of land, where he now lives. He was married in 1835 to Mary, daughter of Charles and Jemima Harriman, natives of Scioto, Ohio; when they came to Darke Co. upon their land, there was not a stick of timber cut; they made the first opening and built a small log house; worked and toiled on from year to year, enduring all the hardships incident to that day; from year to year they were enabled to see the forests disappear and the various improvements take their place; plenty and comfort take the place of want and scarcity, till now he is owner of 100 acres of excellent land, for which at one time he was offered \$100 per acre. They are the parents of eight children, four boys and four girls, six of whom are now living, viz., Daniel, Eliza Jane, Jemima Ann, Susan Etta, John H. and William Allen, all being married and settled in life, except Susan Etta, who, having lost her husband, is at home keeping house for her father, Mr. Weaver's wife having been dead thirty-two years, dying in 1848. Mr. Weaver is now 68 years of age, is enjoying good health, has been a widower, as stated above, for thirty-two years; he is a very popular auctioneer and cries a great many sales through his neighborhood; he is one of those jovial and jolly old pioneers, who is kind hearted, notwithstanding his many odd ways; in fact has





been too kind and accommodating for his own good, having had to pay \$800 security money, and would warn his children and future generations to be guarded on these points, and to take him as an example as to industry, frugality and honorable way of providing for life's interests.

ELIHU WEAVER, farmer, Sec. 2 : P. O. Gettysburg ; a son of Henry and Susan Weaver ; was born in Adams Township, Darke Co., in the year 1832 ; was united in marriage with Sarah Weaver, of Adams Township, Darke Co., 1867, they have two children—Edward and Harry.

## JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

WM. ARCHARD, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 20 ; P. O. Union City. The subject of this memoir was born in County Limerick, Ireland, Nov. 12, 1835 ; when 7 years of age, he was left an orphan, and at 10 years of age, he came to America with his uncle, Thomas Hoar, who located in Cincinnati, and placed William at school, where he remained two years. At 12 years of age, he obtained employment in the grocery trade, and followed the same for several years ; in 1851, he went to Piqua, and, after clerking there some four years, he associated with his employer as partner, and located in Union City in 1855. This partnership continued some seven years, when Mr. Archard disposed of his interest and engaged in farming, which business he has since followed, owning 325 acres of land adjacent to Union City ; in 1874, he laid out 40 acres of his farm, now known as Archard's Addition to Union City ; in 1877, he was elected and served one term as Trustee of Jackson Township, and in 1878 was elected County Commissioner, which office he now holds ; he is one of the self-made men of Darke Co. ; he commenced life without capital ; upon arriving in Piqua, in 1851, his capital consisted of 25 cents, but he has since, by his own hard labor and correct business habits, placed himself among the large landholders and successful farmers of Darke Co. His marriage with Mary A. Mauzy was celebrated in Union City in 1857 ; they have one child by this union—Josephine, now Mrs. Webster Brandon.

JACOB BEERY, retired farmer ; residence Sec. 15 ; P. O. Union City ; one of the oldest settlers of Jackson Township ; born in Fairfield Co. Oct. 16, 1816, at 18 years of age, he commenced in life for himself, and learned and worked at the cabinet and carpenter's trade until 1855, when he came to Darke Co., Ohio, and located in Neave Township, and in 1865 came to Jackson Township and purchased 160 acres of land upon Sec. 13, where he has since lived ; he has now rented his old homestead and is erecting a residence upon Sec. 15, which he intends making his future home ; he is Democratic in politics, but has never been an aspirant for office, and has held none, save the office of Township Trustee ; for three years, he has taken a deep interest in the cause of religion, having, with his wife, been a member of the German Baptist Church for upward of thirty years. His marriage with Esther Voght was celebrated in Fairfield Co. in 1838 ; she was born in the above county ; ten children were the fruits of this union, of whom six are now living, viz., Aaron, Mary, Simeon, Absalom, Jacob F. and Almada. The deceased were Jemima, Leah, Sarah C. and Isabella.

AMOS COOK, farmer, Sec. 33 ; P. O. Union City ; one of the early pioneers of Darke Co. ; born in Chester Co., Penn., in 1809 ; came to Darke Co., Ohio, in 1849, and purchased his present place of 120 acres, where he has since lived for a period of upward of thirty years ; upon locating here, his present well improved place was a wilderness ; he has since, by his own hard labor, cleared the acres, which he has placed under a good state of cultivation ; at the above date, deer, wolves, bears, wild turkeys and other game was here in abundance ; he hauled his productions to Pickaway, where he disposed of his wheat at 50 cents per bushel.



and loaded back with groceries, salt, etc. He has been twice married, his first wife was Elizabeth Knofsinger; she was born in Preble Co.; nine children were the fruits of this union, of whom six are now living, viz., Henry, Eli, Daniel, Amos, John and Mary; his second wife was Jane Davidson, also a native of Preble Co.; they have two children by this union, Harvey and Noah. Mr. Cook was a son of Henry Cook, who was born in Germany, and married Catharine Fouch, also of German descent; they both died in Pennsylvania; Mr. Cook now owns 200 acres of land in Jackson Township; commencing with a capital of \$35, he has since accumulated all of the above by his own exertions; the energy and perseverance displayed by Mr. Cook are well worthy of example by the young men of the present day.

**JOSEPH EICHELBERGER**, farmer and Justice of the Peace, Sec. 15; P. O. Union City. The subject of this memoir was born in Cumberland Co., Penn., Feb. 22, 1820; at 13 years of age, he engaged as clerk in the hardware trade at Harrisburg, which position he filled until he attained his majority; he then followed farming in Pennsylvania until 1869, at which date he emigrated to Ohio, and located upon Sec. 15, Jackson Township, where he now lives; he owns 160 acres of land with good farm buildings, which he has accumulated by his own hard labor and correct business habits. Of township and school offices, he has had his full share, having held the office of Township Trustee two years, School Director nine years and Justice of the Peace three years, which office he now holds. His marriage with Caroline Brenizer was celebrated in Cumberland Co., Penn., upon the 12th of November, 1843; she was born in the above county; they were the parents of nine children, of whom seven are now living, viz., Mary M., Joseph E., Washington L., Jane A., James B., Laura V. and Cora A.

**DR. BENJAMIN W. EVANS**, farmer and physician, Sec. 3; P. O. Union City; one of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; born in Delaware Co., Ohio, Feb. 28, 1815; his father, Montgomery Evans, removed with his family from Delaware to Williams, now Defiance Co., Ohio, in 1817, and was the first white family that settled in the Maumee Valley, and here he took up land, upon which he lived until his decease, which occurred in 1847; he suffered all the privations and hardships of frontier life; his milling at first was done at Pickaway, a distance of upward of 100 miles; his marketing being done in the same place; the Doctor lived with his parents until 1843, when he removed to Miami Co., and in 1847 came to Darke Co., and is consequently one of the old settlers of this county. In 1846, Mr. Evans commenced the study of medicine in Shelby Co., and was one of the first physicians in the north part of that county, and has always followed his profession, and has not yet given it up; he was one of the organizers of the first Medical Board of Darke Co., and remained a member for many years. Upon Nov. 14, 1863, he enlisted as a private in the 124th I. V. I., and went forward to battle for the Union; after serving as private a short time, he was promoted to hospital steward, which position he held until the close of the war; during his term of service, he was never absent from duty nor received a furlough; he served in the Atlanta campaign, under Sherman, and was with the above General in North Carolina at the surrender of Johnston; he, with his sons, are strong Republicans, and, to use the Doctor's expression, he always votes as he fought; his first vote for President, was for William H. Harrison. His marriage, with Rebecca E. Peters was celebrated May 11, 1848; she was born in Hawkins Co., Ohio, Dec. 26, 1826; they were the parents of six children, of whom five are now living, viz., Zeletta F., Ida Z., Segisamar L., Aaron L., Mahlon O.; the deceased, Ella E., died at 3 years of age. The Doctor is a very genial gentleman, and manifested toward the writer a very liberal spirit of hospitality, which is characteristic of his nature as well as of frontier life.

**DR. JAMES H. FAHNESTOCK**, physician and surgeon, Sec. 21; P. O. Union City. The subject of this memoir was born in Miami Co., Ohio, Feb. 14, 1842; he was the son of Ephraim Fahnestock, who was born in Perry Co., Penn., in 1812,





and came to Ohio with his parents when quite young, and is now retired from active labor, with a residence at Dayton; he married Elizabeth Billingsby Jan. 6, 1836; she died July 29, 1873. Dr. James H. obtained a common-school education, and, at 13 years of age, commenced the study of medicine, to which he gave his attention for six years; at 19 years of age, he entered the Eclectic Medical Institute at Cincinnati, and graduated from the same in 1863, and, in 1865, he graduated from the Southern Medical Institute, at Memphis, Tenn.; he then gave his attention to farming until 1874, when he located in Darke County, and, in 1877, commenced the practice of medicine, which profession he has since followed, with a rapidly increasing practice; the Doctor called the attention of the writer to a curiosity in the shape of an old-fashioned clock, manufactured in Germany in 1753, which has been handed down from generation to generation, until it now has become the property of the Doctor, who places great value upon the same as an heirloom. His marriage with Margaret Benson was celebrated in Randolph Co., Ind., in 1868; she was a native of Maryland; they have six children, viz., Clara E., Dona M., Charles B., Elizabeth A., George W. and Carl.

**WILLIAM R. HAND**, farmer, Sec. 33; P. O. Union City; one of the early pioneers of Jackson Township; born in Somerset Co., N. J., Dec. 6, 1820; about the year 1840, he, with his father, Gilbert R. Hand, emigrated to Ohio and located upon Sec. 33, Jackson Township, where he has had a continuous residence of nearly forty years, and is consequently one of the oldest settlers; about the year 1862, the decease of his father occurred, since which time the subject of this sketch has lived upon the old farm and devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits. He married Mary Bolin, and they have two sons—William, born Sept. 29, 1864, and Joseph, Nov. 30, 1868; he now owns upward of 60 acres of land, under a good state of cultivation.

**ROBERT S. HARTMAN**, farmer, Sec. 3; P. O. Union City; born in Clermont Co., Ohio, Dec. 2, 1824; his father, Samuel Hartman, was born in Middlesex Co., N. J., March 19, 1790; in 1795, he emigrated with his parents to Kentucky, and in 1801, came to the Territory of Ohio and located in Clermont County; he died May 13, 1862, upon the old homestead, where he located sixty-one years previous; his first wife was Sarah Dunham; she died in Brown Co., Ohio, in 1841, leaving eight children, of whom two now survive. The subject of this sketch was raised to farm labor until 18 years of age; the following six years he devoted to farming and carpentering; in February, 1856, he came to Darke County, and is classed among the old settlers, having been a resident for nearly a quarter of a century. He married Abigail Jones in 1849; she died in 1860, leaving one child—Franklin D. His marriage with Mary E. Marsh was celebrated in Darke County Jan. 23, 1862; she came to Darke County with her father, William Marsh, in 1853, where her father died after a residence of ten months. The children of Robert S. and Mary E. (Marsh) Hartman were eight in number, of whom four are deceased, the living are William T., Nancy E., Robert M. and George W. The great-grandmother of Robert S. Hartman, Ann Hutchinson, born March 16, 1700 (old style) was the mother of William Hutchinson, whose daughter Mary married Christopher Hartman in April, 1777; William Hutchinson was born Dec. 13, 1724; Catherine (Vohn) Hutchinson, his wife, was born May 17, 1731; their children were Mary, born March 24, 1755; William, March 12, 1757; Hannah, Aug. 9, 1759; Robert, July 26, 1763; Sylvester, April 20, 1765; Aaron, May 17, 1767; Ezekiel, Oct. 1, 1769; Ann, July 8, 1772; Catherine, Jan. 3, 1775. The grandfather of Robert S. Hartman was Christopher Hartman, born May 6, 1750; Mary Hutchinson, his wife, was born March 24, 1755; they were the parents of eight children—William, born Feb. 17, 1778; Isaac, Sept. 2, 1779; Rebecca, June 3, 1781; Elizabeth, May 22, 1783; Katharine, Sept. 27, 1785; Samuel, March 19, 1790; Fanny, March 5, 1793; Rachael, Dec. 29, 1796. Samuel Hartman, the father of Robert S. Hartman, was twice married; his first wife was Sarah Dunham, who was the mother of Robert S.; she died in Brown Co., Ohio, in 1841; of eight children, only two now





survive; his second wife was Mrs. Elizabeth (Huntington) Browning, married Oct. 17, 1844; four children were born to them—Sarah F., born Aug. 4, 1845; Jane A., May 12, 1847; Emily C., April 10, 1849; Nancy E., April 13, 1851.

JACOB HUNCHBERGER, merchant, blacksmith and farmer. Sec. 14: P. O. Union City; the gentleman whose name heads this sketch, was born in Lancaster Co., Penn., Feb. 8, 1824; his father, Jacob Hunchberger, Sr., was born in the same county in 1784, and is now living in Montgomery Co., Ohio, at the advanced age of 95 years; he married Mary Dravenstadt who was born in the above county, and died in Fayette Co., Ill., at 60 years of age. The subject of this sketch followed farming in Pennsylvania until 19 years of age, when he learned and worked at the blacksmith trade in Wayne Co., Ohio, three years; he then followed the blacksmith trade for himself in Ashland Co., until 1858, at which date he came to Darke Co., Ohio; in 1870, he located upon his present place, where he has 66 acres of land, with blacksmith-shop, store and farm buildings; in 1874, he connected the merchandise trade with his other business, devoting his personal attention largely to this branch of his business, while his son, who is a first-class blacksmith, attends to that branch of his business. He was married in 1851, in Ashland Co., Ohio, to Mary Crouse. They were the parents of nine children, of whom three daughters and one son are now living, viz., Cornelius D., Florence, now Mrs. J. C. Boze; Loa D. and Hattie.

CHARLES NEGLEY, farmer; P. O. Union City; the subject of this memoir is one of the representative men of Darke Co.; he was born in St. Louis, Mo., in 1839; he came to Ohio when 6 years of age and located in Jackson Township, Darke Co., and after a residence of two years removed to Preble Co., where he was engaged in the stone-cutting business until he attained his majority; in 1861, he returned to this county and located in Union City, where he was engaged in various mercantile and real estate speculations until 1875; he was then elected by the Senate, Assistant Sergeant at Arms of the State Senate, serving 1874 and 1875; he was re-elected to the same office and served through the term of 1877 and 1878; in 1877, he was elected Mayor of Union City, Ind., and in 1879 was elected representative to the State Legislature of Ohio, which office he now holds. His marriage with Margaret Gard was celebrated in 1861, in Union City; they have eight children—Iuka, Frank, Rockey C., Kerby R., Katie, Charles Webber, Clara, Casshie.

WILLIAM PARENT, farmer, Sec. 32; P. O. Union City, Ind.; one of the early pioneers of Darke Co.; born in Monmouth Co., N. J., Nov. 15, 1804; he emigrated to Ohio, with his parents, about the year 1812, and located in German Township, Darke Co.; in 1824, he entered 120 and purchased 160 acres of land at Hill Grove, in Washington Township; in April, 1858, he came to Jackson Township and purchased 116 acres of land, where he has since lived. Mr. Parent commenced in life without means; he purchased his first land from the proceeds of his labor at cutting and splitting rails at 25 cents per hundred; he now owns upward of 350 acres of land, with good farm buildings, secured by his own exertions; he has suffered all the hardships and privations of frontier life, has frequently hauled oats, wheat, and pork to Cincinnati, selling oats at 10 and wheat at 60 cents per bushel, and pork at \$1.25 per one hundred pounds, loading back with groceries, salt, etc. His marriage with Hannah Elsten was celebrated Feb. 18, 1829; she was born in Orange Co., N. J. and died Oct. 22, 1875, at the advanced age of 64 years 10 months and 22 days; they were the parents of eight children, of whom seven now survive, viz., John, George, Sarah, Elizabeth, Samuel, Harrison and Amery; the deceased, Aecha, lived to grow up and become the mother of three children.

FREDERICK C. SCHNEIDER, car inspector of the C., C. & I. R. R.; Union City, Ohio; born in Hamburg, Germany, Jan. 30, 1826; when 14 years of age, he commenced the carpenter's trade, and followed the same until 1853, when he emigrated to America, landing in Quebec, thence to Buffalo and Cleveland, where he was employed in the car shops of the L. S. & M. S. R. R. for several months, then



to Galion for two years, manufacturing cars, and in 1855, he came to Union City Ind., and has since been Car Inspector of the C. C. & I. R. R. for upward of a quarter of a century ; he attends to the inspection of all of the cars of the above road with the assistance of eight men under his charge. He married Elizabeth Jacoby in October 1855 ; she was born in Prussia Jan. 10. 1837 ; they have two children by this union—Charles, born Dec. 6, 1856, now conductor on the Bee Line, and William, born April 21. 1859, now brakeman on the D. & U. passenger. Mr Schneider was a son of Frederick H. Schneider, who was born in Mecklenburg, Germany ; was a baker and grain dealer, died in 1869, in Hamburg ; he married Anna Gotshe, born in Altona, near Hamburg ; she died in 1848 in Hamburg ; they had four sons and two daughters, of whom the subject of this sketch was the oldest son.

DAVID W. SIGLER, Sec. 21 ; P. O. Union City ; firm of Sigler, Fahnstock & Co., proprietors of the Buck Horn Saw-Mill. The subject of this sketch, though a young man, may be considered an old settler ; he was born in Iowa, near Iowa City, upon the 19th of October, 1840 ; when less than 2 years of age, his father died, and he, with his mother, removed to Preble Co., Ohio, residing seven years. In 1849, they came to Darke Co., his mother died two years later, and he was left an orphan, to carve out his own way in life ; his first employment was at a hotel at Hill Grove, where he remained three years ; he then obtained employment upon a farm until 1863, at which date he was employed in the above mill, and two years later he purchased an interest, and in 1876, the above firm was formed with Mr Sigler as superintendent ; their mill is one of the oldest steam saw-mills in the county, and has a wide reputation. He married Jarusha L. Benson, in 1865, in Jackson Township, she was born in Maryland, and came to Ohio, with her parents, at an early day ; they have four children now living, having lost one by death ; the living are Effie V., Mordecai O., Jarusha J. and Mary ; the deceased, Mary, died in infancy.

J. H. SNOOK, brick, tile and wagon stock manufacturer ; Union City ; born in Frederick Co., Md., July 2, 1829 ; at 19 years of age, he learned the tanner's trade, which he followed for seventeen years in Washington Co., Md. ; he then followed farming several years, and in the spring of 1875 he emigrated to Ohio and located in Union City, where he engaged in the manufacture of brick, and the first two years made upward of 700,000, for which he found a ready sale. In 1877, he purchased the tile factory of George Dutro and connected the same with his other business ; the quality of his tile is equal to any manufactured in Darke Co., his sales amounting to \$5,000 yearly, of tile alone ; he has also erected a building 30x80, two stories high, for the purpose of manufacturing wagon stock, to which he has added an engine room 30x40, with an engine of fifty-horse power. Mr. Snook is one of the most enterprising and active business men of Union City and gives employment in his brick and tile factories to thirteen men, which will be largely increased when his factory for the manufacture of wagon stock is in full operation. In 1853, he married Sylvia Keyser ; she died in 1863. his second wife was Lydia Dutro, a native of Maryland ; eight children by each union, of whom nine sons and two daughters are now living, all of whom are living at home, except the second son, who is a blacksmith at Hill Grove.

ELIAS R. STRAIT, farmer and stock-raiser. Sec. 13 ; P. O. Ansonia ; one of the old settlers ; born in Jackson Township, Darke Co., Ohio, Aug. 1, 1839 ; his father, Richard Strait, was born in Bedford Co., Penn., Sept. 3, 1796, and in 1829 he came to Darke Co. and located upon the very place where Elias now lives and where he entered land, upon which he lived for nearly fifty years, until his decease, which occurred Oct. 15, 1878 ; he married Rachael Jennings ; she was born in Bedford Co., Penn., and died Dec. 4, 1878 ; they were the parents of ten children. The subject of this sketch continued to live with his parents until he attained his majority, and kindly cared and provided for them until their death ; he now lives upon the same place where he was born, upon which he has just completed a new frame residence ; he also owns 120 acres three-fourths of a mile from his home



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farm, now rented to a son-in-law. He married Mary Peters in 1859; she died in 1865, leaving three daughters—Rachael, Martha and Ellen. In 1866, he married Sarah Boerstler; they have four sons and one daughter by this union, viz., Ira, George, Amy, Harry and Levi. Mr. S. is a Republican; has been Township Trustee two years; has been a member of the Christian Church twenty years; his wife and three elder children are also members of the same church.

JOEL STRAIT, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 13; P. O. Hetslerville. Among the early pioneers of Jackson Township we find the names of Richard and Joel Strait, who located here in 1829. Richard Strait was the father of the subject of this sketch, and was born in Pennsylvania in September, 1796. He married Rachael Jennings in Pennsylvania, and at the early day above mentioned, located in Darke County, where he took up Congress land upon which he lived until his death, which occurred Oct. 15, 1878, aged upward of 82 years. Joel Strait was born in Perry Co., Ohio, upon the 6th of October, 1823; he lived upon the farm of his father until after his marriage, when he located upon Sec. 13, Jackson Township, where he has lived for a period of thirty-seven years; he now owns 110 acres of well-improved land, with good farm buildings; his fine brick residence was erected in 1874; he is probably the oldest continuous resident of Jackson Township, having lived here for upward of half a century. He is a strong Republican; has never been an aspirant for office, but has held the offices of School Director, Constable and Township Trustee; has taken a deep interest in the cause of religion, having, with his wife, been member of the Christian Church for twenty-two years, and has been a Deacon of the same for twenty years. His marriage with Hannah Teeter was celebrated in 1843 in Randolph Co., Ind.; nine children, of whom five are now living, viz., Francis M., Richard W., Milton O., Joel F. and Alfred; of the deceased three died in infancy, and Harvey enlisted in the 94th O. V. I. for three years, and lost his life at Bowling Green while in defense of his country.

MARTIN VANDEN, retired manufacturer, merchant and farmer; P. O. Union City, Ind.; residence, Union City, Ind.; one of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born in Gallia Co., Ohio, Feb. 23, 1809; at the age of 18, he commenced to learn the trade of wagon and plow maker, and, after working at the same until 1833, he engaged in the above business on his own account, and continued the same for a period of thirteen years; in 1846, he engaged in the mercantile trade at Gallipolis, continuing the same until 1858, when he emigrated to Ohio and located at Union City, Darke Co., and has been a continuous resident of Darke Co. for upward of twenty-one years. When Mr. V. located here, there were only two buildings upon Elm street; he has witnessed the marvelous change of seeing the same become the business street of the place, and his own residence and store are built upon a part of his purchase of four lots, for which he at that time paid \$30, now worth \$1,000; at the time of the purchase, however, they were located in a pond of water. Upon the 1st of August, 1833, he was united in marriage with Rebecca Guy; she was born in Virginia Aug. 3, 1806; six children were the fruits of this union, of whom three are deceased; the living are Margaret A., Sarah J. and Julia M.

THOMAS B. WENRICK, farmer and minister; P. O. Union City; residence Sec. 26. This gentleman was born in Dauphin Co., Penn., upon the 26th of March, 1818; at 2 years of age, he removed with his parents to Cumberland Co., Penn.; in 1836, he came to Montgomery Co., Ohio, and in 1838 located in Miami Co.; in 1841, he came to Darke Co., and, after a residence of six years, came to Darke Co. and located in Jackson Township in the year 1847, where he has lived thirty-two years within a distance of three-fourths of a mile; in 1853, he commenced preaching, and has since continued the same in connection with farming; he now has 220 acres of land, with good farm buildings. Mr. Wenrick was a son of Thomas and Esther (Brant) Wenrick; his father was born in Pennsylvania, and died in





Miami Co., Ohio, in 1853; his mother was also a native of Pennsylvania, and died a few years after the death of her husband.

SOLOMON YOUNG, farmer, grain merchant and ice dealer; P. O. Union City, Ind.; one of the old settlers of Darke Co.; born in Maryland Feb. 12, 1827; his father, Joseph Young, emigrated from Maryland to Pennsylvania in 1820, and in 1834 came to Darke Co., Ohio, and located some three miles east of Gettysburg; at 16 years of age Solomon Young obtained employment in the woolen mills in Miami Co., continuing the same seven years; in 1852, he built a house in Union City, placing the four corners of the same upon stumps; he opened the first butcher shop in Union City, Ohio, which he run for several years, a portion of which time he also conducted the grocery and baker trade; in 1868, he located upon his present place, and for three years engaged in the saw-mill business, in connection with farming; he has cleared 240 acres of land during the past eleven years; his home farm consists of 80 acres of well-improved land, with good farm buildings, one-half mile from Union City; he has held the office of Assessor, and is now Land Appraiser. In 1864, he enlisted in the 152d O. N. G., under the call for 100-days men; was elected and served as Second Lieutenant for the full term of service of four months; in 1877, he connected the ice business, and is now also largely engaged in buying and shipping grain to the Eastern markets, his warehouse being located between the tracks of the C. C., C. & I. and the P. C. & St. L. R. R.'s. He was united in marriage with Hulda Reed, at Versailles, Darke Co.; she was the daughter of Allen Reed, one of the early pioneers; they were the parents of nine children, of whom Amanda, William T., Gertrude, Lincoln, Petulla and Solomon F., are now living; the deceased were John, Mary E. and one who died in infancy.

## RICHLAND TOWNSHIP.

JAMES BAILEY, retired farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 4; P. O. Stelvidio was born in Bedford Co., Penn., June 16, 1814; his father, William Bailey, was born in Pennsylvania June 20, 1776, and married Mary Imel; she was born in Maryland June 20, 1782, and now resides in Preble Co., Ohio; he died April 13, 1861. James, the subject of this sketch, moved to Darke Co. in the fall of 1834, and lived in Brown Township until he moved to where he now resides, in Richland Township, and has always followed his present avocation. He married Mary Ann Teegarden Sept. 24, 1839, in Greenville; she died—(?) by this union were ten children, viz.: Julia Ann, born Sept. 16, 1840; Catherine, born Dec. 29, 1841 (deceased); William H., born Jan. 1, 1844 (deceased); John F., born Oct. 6, 1845 (deceased); Stephen H., born July 18, 1847; Moses E., born July 25, 1849 (deceased); Mary, born Nov. 1, 1851 (deceased); Paulina, born Dec. 25, 1852; Ann M., born March 7, 1855; Asberry B., born March 14, 1857. His second marriage was with Mrs. Julia Ann Coppess, widow of Daniel Coppess, who died June 10, 1858; Mr. and Mrs. Coppess were married April 7, 1850, and had five children, viz.: Martin D., born March 3, 1851; Erven, born Aug. 17, 1852 (deceased); Allen, born June 18, 1854; Rhoda A., born July 20, 1856, and Mary C., Feb. 1, 1859. Mr. Bailey's marriage with Mrs. Coppess occurred April 28, 1862; she was a daughter of Sebastian Martin, and was born Feb. 29, 183—; by this union seven children were born, viz.: Isabelle and Presetta M., born Oct. 15, 1863; Harvey F., born Sept. 15, 1866 (deceased); Cordelia, born Jan. 16, 1868; Minola R. B., born July 15, 1875; two died unnamed. Mr. Bailey owns a fine farm of 249 acres, and a good home.

ALEXANDER B. BRANDON, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 27; P. O. Versailles; was born in Wayne Township, Darke Co., Dec. 14, 1820; his father, James R.



was born in West Virginia April 14, 1792, and married Anna Hole, Sept. 15, 1818; she was born in Butler Co., Ohio, Jan. 22, 1798; he came to Darke Co. with his sister Elizabeth in 1818. Mrs. J. R. Brandon's father, Zachariah Hole, moved to this county the same year. Mrs. Anna (Hole) Brandon died near Hill Grove, in 1857, and J. R. Brandon died Feb. 24, 1876, in this township. Alexander, the subject of this sketch, has always worked hard to dig out a home for himself and family; since 1846, he has cleared, almost lone-handed, upward of 60 acres of heavily timbered land; by his untiring industry, aided by his good wife, he is blessed with a good home, and a favorable promise of comfort in their declining years. He married Anna Shafer, April 9, 1846, daughter of John Shafer (see Job M. Shafer's biography in this work); she was born in Bedford Co., Penn., April 30, 1826; they have had ten children, viz.: John T., born March 24, 1847, and died while in the service of his country, at Cumberland, Md., Aug. 22, 1864; Riley M., born March 18, 1849; Job S., born Aug. 25, 1851, and died Aug. 8, 1866; Dorothy A., born Jan. 29, 1854, and married Nathaniel Kershner; Eugene, born Nov. 29, 1856; Aaron, April 20, 1859; James F., Oct. 9, 1861; Noah, Feb. 2, 1864; Arthur M., born July 12, 1866, and Retha Belle, born April 7, 1872; he owns 212 acres of good land and a fine home.

JOHN E. BREADEN, farmer and stock-dealer, Sec. 34; P. O. Greenville; was born near Glendale, Hamilton Co., Ohio, June 17, 1828; his father, Jeremiah Breaden, was born in Ireland, and married Epenetus Sorter in New Jersey, where she was born; both died in Springfield, Ohio. John E. Breaden, the subject of this sketch, learned the profession of druggist with his brother William, in Hamilton, Ohio; their father was an educated physician, and practiced medicine and surgery during his lifetime. John E. came to Greenville in 1850, and engaged in the drug business on his own account for three years, then moved to Brown Township, and engaged in farming; he returned to Greenville in 1862, and engaged in clerking for John Hufnagle, Esq., in his dry-goods store; in March, 1865, he removed to the farm where he now resides. He married Anjumila Hufnagle May 29, 1851; she was born in Dauphin Co., Penn., May 19, 1832, and is a daughter of John Hufnagle, Esq., President of the Greenville Bank, also merchandising in Greenville. Mr. and Mrs. Breaden have had three children, viz.: John Edward, born July 28, 1852; he is an attorney at law in Greenville, and obtained his education mainly at the Chickering Institute, in Cincinnati, where he graduated in 1873; he read law with Calderwood & Cole, in Greenville, and was admitted to the bar in 1876; Maria Evie, born Feb. 8, 1854 (deceased); and Lillian Vincincia, born Dec. 30, 1861, now at "St. Mary of the Springs Convent," near Columbus, Ohio, completing her education.

SAMUEL S. COLLINS, wagon-maker and farmer, Sec. 20; P. O. Dawn; was born in Warren Co., Ohio, June 26, 1819, his father, Levi Collins, was born in Lewis Co., Va., in 1795, and married Elizabeth Snell in Warren Co. Ohio; they moved to—in 1821, and to Shelby Co., Ind., in 1830, where he died in 1852; she died in Troy, Miami Co., in 1830. The subject of this sketch served an apprenticeship of two years in Morristown, Ind., then returned to Miami Co., Ohio, and made his first lumber wagon, and sold it for \$5, not on account of the beauty of its workmanship; he followed the business twenty-five years, and has the reputation of doing first-class work; he settled permanently where he now resides in 1855, and bought land in 1865; he erected for himself a good brick residence. Last September, he had the misfortune to lose his left arm by accident. He married Jane M. Cairns March 7, 1844; she was born in Ireland Aug. 14, 1818, and died in August 1850; they had four children, viz.: Jennet E., born April 23, 1845, deceased; Laura L., born Oct. 3, 1846; she married John Lehman; Albert M., born July 6, 1848, died May 3, 1872, and Geo. A., born July 10, 1850; his second marriage was with Mrs. Elizabeth McDowell, Nov. 27, 1851, widow of William McDowell, who died June 10, 1849, in Brown Co., Ohio; they had one daughter, Lucinda J., born Jan. 7, 1850, and died June 24, 1865; by this union they have





had five children, viz., John W., born Jan. 23, 1853, died Sept. 30, 1854; Charles F., born Oct. 11, 1856; Jason H., Sept. 12, 1859; Franklin E., Sept. 6, 1863, and Joseph C., Dec. 17, 1868. Mrs. Collins' father, Adam Ulery, was born in Prussia Germany, March 24, 1787, and married Mary C. Witty in 1819; she was born in 1798; in 1810 he was drafted into the army, and served nine years under Napoleon I, they came to Baltimore, Md., in 1820, in 1826 the family, consisting of himself wife and four children, and all their earthly effects in a one-horse wagon left Pennsylvania for a new home in Miami Co., Ohio; his cash assets all told were \$13. He died March 7, 1876, and she died March 14, following, and at their decease they had accumulated a handsome fortune worth \$15,000. Mr. and Mrs. Collins are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church; he owns 366 acres bordering on the village of Dawn; in politics, is a Republican.

REBECCA G. DAVISON, widow of Edwin R. Davison, deceased; Sec. 24, P. O. Ansonia. Edwin R. Davison was born in Greene Co., Ohio, Aug. 6, 1830, and died in Richland Township July 30, 1878, after several months of suffering with cancer. His father, Robert Davison, was born in Bourbon Co., Ky., April 5, 1798, and married Mary Stratton, March 26, 1829; she was born May 23, 1807, and died March 22, 1847; he now resides in York Township, Darke Co., with his daughter, Louisa Oliver; he moved to Darke Co., in 1831; by trade was a tanner and currier; he bought land in this township in 1830 and settled here, and engaged in farming, which he has ever since followed; he now owns 117 acres of his original purchase, and other lands in Brown Township. He married the second time, Aug. 8, 1847, Mary Brown; she died Aug. 16, 1865, leaving no issue; but by his first union were seven children, viz., Edwin R., the subject of this sketch; Louisa, present wife of David Oliver; Mary A. and Sarah A., twins; Mary A. deceased; she married James Deardoff; Sarah A. married Adam Coppess; Oscar A., Amanda F., who married Isaac Deardoff; Emily, married Irvin Warvel, both are deceased; and Mortimer, deceased; Edwin Davison, deceased, was raised a farmer, and always followed it; he married Rebecca G. Warvel, Jan. 27, 1853; she was born in Rockingham Co., Va., May 4, 1832, is a daughter of John Warvel (See George H. Warvel's biography in this work.) Mr. and Mrs. Davison have had six children viz.: Sarah J., born June 28, 1853, she married Riley Brandon; William H., born Sept. 4, 1855; Robert, Nov. 4, 1860; Iola M., Nov. 7, 1862; Luella, Jan. 17, 1866, died Oct. 4, 1867; Seymour, born Oct. 17, 1868. She owns 146 acres of land and a good home.

OSCAR F. DAVISON, tile manufacturer at Nevada, Sec. 20; P. O. Dawn, born in Richland Township Oct. 16, 1837; his father, Robert, was born in Bourbon Co., Ky., and married Mary Stratton, of Greene Co., Ohio, and moved to Darke Co. in 1829. The subject of this sketch was raised a farmer; he engaged in merchandising during the year 1866, but sold out before he had been in business a year, and returned to farming and dealing in live stock; has been Township Assessor of personal property, Supervisor, Trustee, etc.; in 1877, he erected tile works and now gives his attention to this business. He married Sirena Plessinger, daughter of David Plessinger, in March, 1861; she was born Jan. 28, 1838, and died Nov. 29, 1865, leaving no issue; his second marriage was celebrated with Sarah Jane Plessinger, daughter of George Plessinger, whose biography appears in this work, Feb. 20, 1868; she was born Dec. 20, 1847; they have had five children viz.: George R., born Jan. 4, 1869, died Sept. 19, following; Tepa H., born Oct. 5, 1872; Mary G., July 8, 1874; Claude E., Jan. 6, 1877, and Cora May, Oct. 21, 1878. He owns 113 acres of land, two good houses and his tile works, which are extensive.

JOHN W. DUCKWALL, merchant and grain-dealer, Nevada; P. O. Dawn, was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Sept. 27, 1840; his father, Wm. Duckwall, was born in Virginia Aug. 15, 1808, and married Caroline Bruner; she was born in Virginia Jan. 27, 1820; they moved to Montgomery Co., Ohio, where they now reside; on his 70th birthday, the family had a very gratifying surprise, six sons





and two daughters with their families, by pre-arrangement, came together under the old roof-tree to congratulate the old people. John W., the subject of this sketch, at the age of 19 commenced teaching school; this he continued up to 1878, though at times engaging in other business, receiving at Oberlin much of his education. In August, 1862, he enlisted in the 112th O. V. I., which consolidated with the 63d Regiment, and served until the close of the war; he participated in the battles of Resaca, Atlanta, Kennesaw Mountain, and many others; on Sherman's march to the sea, he was never captured, or received a wound; entered as Sergeant, and was Orderly Sergeant at the close, and was so familiar with the names of his company that he could always call the roll without the "roster;" he engaged in merchandising in this place in May, 1878, also in the grain business. He married Jennie Maxwell, July 15, 1869, daughter of Samuel and Jane M. (Ferguson) Maxwell, who reside in Frederick Co., Md.; she was born May 23, 1841; they have three children, viz.: Carrie J., born June 10, 1870; Samuel W., born Oct. 6, 1873, and Francis C., born May 14, 1876.

PHILLIP HARTZELL, farmer, stock-raiser, steam thrasher and corn-sheller, Sec. 36; P. O. Beamsville; was born in Adams Township, this County, May 23, 1843; his father, John J. Hartzell, was born in Pennsylvania Dec. 1, 1815, and married Nancy Westfall; he died in September, 1852, and she died in 1865, in Richland Township; they were among the earliest settlers of Darke Co. The subject of this sketch was raised a farmer; in 1864, he traveled West, and followed teaming between Omaha, Neb., and Denver City, for about a year and a half; then returned to where he resides, on the homestead of his father; last year, he erected for himself a fine residence; has only one brother, David, who lives in Rossville, Kan. Phillip Hartzell married Caroline Dill in October, 1863; she was born in Beamsville Sept. 14, 1851; her father, John H. C. Dill, was born in Germany, and came to this country in 1832; he married Martha C. Siegmunt, in 1834, in Butler Co., Ohio; she died March 7, 1858, in this county. In Germany he learned harness-making, and followed it awhile in Trenton, Ohio; afterward in Beamsville, where at the same time he kept a hotel, also engaged in merchandising; he moved to Dallas and engaged in merchandising, but at the decease of his wife, was farming, but was in the mercantile business at the time of his death, in April, 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Hartzell have two children, viz., Rosetta, born Aug. 3, 1869, and Charles D., born May 22, 1875; he owns a fine farm of 115 acres, part of which was the homestead.

JESSE B. JOHN, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 20; P. O. Dawn; was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, March 2, 1833; his father, Jacob B. John, was born in Franklin County, Penn., May 7, 1789, and married Eleanor Phillips, of the same county; she was born June 2, 1791; in the spring of 1810, moved to Montgomery County, Ohio; he served in the war of 1812, and was honorably discharged; afterward served two years as Captain of militia company; moved to Darke County in 1837; there he served two years as Township Trustee, and was Justice of the Peace six years; he died Feb. 19, 1863, and she died June 28, 1871, in this township; the following extract from an obituary was published on the demise of Mrs. Elenor John, relict of David John, the grandmother and grandfather of the subject of this sketch, at her decease, June 22, 1848, aged 81 years 4 months and 12 days: "She was the second of a family of eight children of the Rev. Joseph Powell (Baptist), settled in Bedford County, Penn., being the only clergyman in those parts then; solemnized 845 marriages up to 1804, the time of his death; on the 25th of January, 1785, she married David John, of Little Cove, Franklin Co., Penn., and became the mother of thirteen children; in the spring of 1810, they emigrated to Montgomery County, Ohio, where she died; her husband died Nov. 10, 1812, leaving her in a new country, with the charge of a large family, to encounter the privations of such a situation as she best could; but being a woman hale and industrious and with a confiding trust in God, she was enabled to bring up her family respectably and to see them settled in life; at the time of her death her





children numbered thirteen, her grandchildren seventy-one, her great-grandchildren thirty-seven, making her descendants 121." Jesse B. John, with his parents, moved to Montgomery County, Ohio, in 1810, and to Darke County in 1837; he was raised a farmer and has always followed the business; he has been Township Trustee, Supervisor, and eight years School Director. He married Abbie J. Kaylor Oct. 4, 1860; she was born April 29, 1835, in Logan County, Ohio; her father, Reuben Kaylor, was born Oct. 31, 1805, in Rockingham County, Va., and married Elizabeth Warvel; she was born June 19, 1807, and died March 25, 1876, in Bellefontaine, Logan Co., Ohio, where he now resides. Mr. and Mrs. Jesse B. John have three children, viz., Bowen Wesley, born Aug. 4, 1861; Lillie Dale, June 29, 1864; and Willie Barnett, Sept. 3, 1868. Mr. John owns a farm of 80 acres, the old homestead; his mother died with cancer after long and terrible suffering.

HENRY C. KESTER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 30; P. O. Beamsville; was born in Hesse Shaumburg, Germany, Oct. 12, 1826; his father, Henry F. Kester, was born in the same place June 16, 1800, and married Justina Meyer; she was born in 1802; his father and mother were Frederick and Leonora (Meyer) Kester. Henry C., the subject of this sketch, landed in New York July 6, 1852, and arrived in Darke County July 14 following, with his parents; his mother died Aug. 11, 1862, and his father is living with him on the farm, where they moved in the fall of 1852 on the banks of Stillwater Creek, near Beansville; in 1849, Henry C. was drafted into the German army; he served three years, but was granted a government passport to leave before his time expired; he is Township Trustee, has been Supervisor, also School Director; he had two sisters and one brother, viz.: Willmena, born Jan. 26, 1829; she married a Henry Kester; Caroline married Louis Kuckenberg, and Ferdinand; the last two are deceased. Henry C. married Christina W. C. Schulte July 16, 1851; she was born in the same place as himself Feb. 7, 1826. They have had eight children, viz.: Caroline W. C., born April 25, 1852, deceased; Charlotte, born Aug. 3, 1855; Willmena, May 15, 1857; Christian H., Aug. 12, 1859; Henry F., March 2, 1861; Fredrick C. L., Oct. 24, 1864; Harmon F., June 20, 1869, and a twin to Charlotte died unnamed. He owns a fine farm of 180 acres, where he resides.

ISAAC N. McFARLAND, carriage trimmer, carriage and wagon maker, blacksmithing and general repairing, under the firm name of McFarland & Bro., Nevada; P. O. Dawn; Sec. 20. Was born in Richland Township, Nov. 7, 1849; is a son of James McFarland, whose biography appears in this work; he learned his trade in Dayton, Ohio, mostly; in 1871, engaged in business on his own account, in Versailles, Darke Co.; in 1876, he located where he now resides, and is now copartner with his brother, James A. He married Mary J. Bashia in March, 1872 in Darke Co.; she is a daughter of Joseph and Mary Ann Bashia; her father was born in France and her mother in Indiana, and now reside near Versailles, in this county; Mrs. McF. was born July 30, 1854; they have three children, viz.: Tracey G., born April 22, 1874; Rachel A., born Sept. 7, 1876, and Genevieve, born July 14, 1879. He is the leader of McFarland's Brass Band, of Dawn.

JAMES McFARLAND, blacksmith and wagon-maker, also general repairing, Sec. 20; P. O. Dawn. Was born in Greene Co., Ohio, May 8, 1822; his father Isaac McFarland, married Susanna Stephenson, May 29, 1817; she was born in Boone Co., Ky., Nov. 18, 1798; he died in Greene Co., and she moved to Darke Co. in 1837; they had two sons, viz., William, born in May, 1818, and James, the subject of this sketch; William was always highly respected and honored for his generous, pious and gentlemanly qualities; he died in September, 1874; he served through the late rebellion in a regimental band. James, the subject of this sketch, was bound apprentice to the blacksmith's trade in Greenville, Darke Co., Ohio, at the age of 13, and served until he attained his majority, getting six months' schooling in the mean time; he then moved to Beamsville and started business on his own account; in 1844, he bought 80 acres, and in 1850, 80 more, where he now resides.





and on which is a part of the village of Dawn (Nevada); he has been honored with all the offices of Richland Township, and is now Assessor of real estate; Aug. 25, 1863, he was elected Colonel and commissioned by Gov. Tod, of the 3d Regiment O. M., of Darke Co.; he holds this office, also that of Regimental Drum Major, which he has held thirty-five years; he has in his possession a cavalry sword, an epaulet, and an English knife, owned and used by his grandfather. James McFarland, during the Revolutionary war of 1776. He married Rachel John Jan 2, 1845; she was born Nov. 25, 1823, in Montgomery Co., Ohio; they have had nine children, viz.: William, born April 6, 1846; Isaac N., born Nov. 7, 1849; Susan E., born April 22, 1852, she married Charles Beadle; James A., born July 20, 1854; one unnamed, born Sept. 8, 1856; Thomas H., born Jan. 11, 1853; John C., born June 28, 1860; Jacob M., born Aug. 8, 1865, and Dora Belle, born Sept. 28, 1867. Six of the boys and the father constitute the McFarland Brass Band. Mr. McFarland is a member of the order of A. F. & A. M., and has filled all the subordinate offices of his lodge.

AUGUSTUS W. McNIGHT, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 19; P. O. Dawn. Was born in Bracken Co., Ky., March 20, 1817. His father, Alexander McNight, married Sarah Lemon, of Pennsylvania; he served as a private during the war of 1812; they moved to Cincinnati in 1830; he was a blacksmith and worked at his trade there about a year; the family, being too poor to hire a conveyance, walked all the way to Connersville, Ind., where they stayed until 1833, then moved to Butler Co., Ohio, but moved to Darke County and settled in 1835, where he died in 1843; she died in 1846, in Van Buren Township; they had managed by the time they came here to save enough money to buy 80 acres in the wilderness, but that was all, and for years they had a hard struggle to gain a livelihood: the first winter they lived in a little log cabin, the floor was the earth; the woods were full of wild animals and game. The subject of this sketch killed a noble buck with his ax, one of a drove of twenty-seven; at the age of 13, he got employment at five bushels of corn per month; he worked out for wages until he was 22, for his parents; after that for himself; at the age of 26, he learned to make half-bushel measures, and made money enough to buy two lots in Sampson; he sold them and bought 3 acres, improved, near the town; he sold this in 1851, for \$150; he then traded for 80 acres in Jay Co., Ind.; that he traded for 25 acres in Neave Township, this county; that he sold, and bought 42 acres in Richland Township; this he sold for \$1,300; he then bought 84 acres in Wayne Township; sold this and bought 80 acres improved in the same township; this he sold for \$2,600 in 1863; then he bought 70 acres in Neave Township, and paid \$1,700; sold this the next year for \$2,500; he then bought 102 acres improved, with a brick house, near Versailles; sold that in 1873 for \$6,200; then he bought 40 acres improved in Adams Township; sold that in 1877, and bought where he now resides and owns 126 acres of as fine farming land as lies in the county, and worth at least \$8,000, all this from hard digging; and he has raised and educated a large family, but he himself never learned to read or write his own name, even, and he don't owe any man a dollar. He married Sarah Shevidecker, of Preble Co., Ohio, Sept. 16, 1841, where she was born in 1823; she died in Darke County in 1846; by this union were three children, viz.: Alfred, born July 4, 1842, and died Feb. 21, 1862; Sarah, born May 20, 1843—she married Leonard Shoutz; she died in Illinois, and Catherine A., born Feb. 8, 1845. His second marriage was with Susanna Nysonger, of Greene Co., Penn., Feb. 2, 1848; she was born Sept. 29, 1826; by this union were twelve children, three of whom died young—James A., born Nov. 12, 1848, deceased; Margaret E., born Oct. 7, 1850; Anna E., Dec. 4, 1852; Mary J., Sept. 24, 1855; Lydia, March 16, 1858; Lucinda, Oct. 12, 1860; Isabelle, May 20, 1863; Evarilla M., Oct. 7, 1866, and John C., Oct. 11, 1871.

ROBERT A. MORRISON, M. D., Beamsville; was born in Franklin Co., Penn., March 28, 1832; his father, Aaron Morrison, married Nancy McClintock; she resides in Piqua, Miami Co., Ohio; he died in Darke Co., Dr. R. A. Morrison





read medicine in Covington, Ohio, and in Gettysburg, Ohio, and graduated in Cincinnati, in the Ohio Medical College, in 1859; commenced the practice of medicine in Gettysburg, this county, where he practiced five years; moved to Laura, Miami Co.; remained there two years; he then returned to Gettysburg; moved to Horatio, 1866, and to Stelvidio in 1868; on the 11th of June, 1872, he was thrown accidentally from his sulky, receiving almost fatal injury, causing paraplegia of his left side, from which he has not, nor will he recover, though in full possession of mind and memory, and good practice, having the confidence of the community and fraternity, and is in full membership in the Darke County Medical Society. He married Sarah A. Shade, March 15, 1859, at New Harrison; she was born Jan. 27, 1837; by this union were six children, three of whom are deceased, the living are Mary Alice, Robert Sheridan and Jim; his second marriage was with Sarah Hartel, Aug. 21, 1879; she was born April 2, 1844; her father, Jacob Hartel, Jr., was born in Pennsylvania Aug. 14, 1802, and married Elizabeth Curtner; she was born June 24, 1802; he died Oct. 2, 1873; his father, Jacob Hartel, Sr., was born Oct. 5, 1779, and his wife, Elizabeth (Snively), was born Oct. 18, 1778; his second wife was Catherine Spade; she was born June 6, 1792; his third wife was Susanna Cooley, born April 12, 1791. This family was among the earliest settlers of Richland Township. See George Plessinger's biography, which appears in this work.

ELLEN PECK, widow of Charles L. Peck, M. D., deceased; Sec. 32; P. O. Beamsville; he was born near Brighton, Aug. 25, 1837, and was a son of Lewis and Electa (Kelsey) Peck, who reside in Bloomfield, Conn.; Dr. Charles L. Peck, soon after he graduated, moved to Beamsville, Darke Co., and commenced the practice of medicine, which profession he followed with eminent success, and in all the walks of life, he was loved and esteemed for his gentlemanly deportment, kind and generous acts and energetic business enterprise, by which, in his short life, he accumulated and left to his devoted family a handsome competency; he read medicine in Hartford, Conn., where he graduated May 11, 1857; besides his medical practice, he engaged in merchandising and farming; he died Feb. 10, 1876, leaving for his family 200 acres of fine farming land, with good farm buildings, 40 acres of which are adjoining the village of Beamsville, wherein he also owned two dwellings; he married Ellen Brown, Aug. 21, 1859; she was born in Brownhelm, Loraine Co., Ohio, Sept. 9, 1841; her father, Jeremiah Brown, was born in New York State, and married Bridget R. McLaughlin, daughter of Robert and Ellen McLaughlin, who came from Pennsylvania in 1824; Jeremiah Brown died April 13, 1844; his widow, Ellen, married William Kelsey; they reside in Richland Township; Mr. and Mrs. Dr. Peck have had three children by their union, viz.: Clifford Lewis, born Nov. 12, 1860; Rachael Edith, born June 19, 1865, and Franklin Orator, Nov. 16, 1871.

GEORGE PLESSINGER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 22; P. O. Dawn, was born in Bedford Co., Penn., Dec. 15, 1815; his father, Philip, was born in Maryland, near Harper's Ferry, Feb. 18, 1784, and married Faith Fish; she was born in New Jersey March 16, 1781; they moved to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in the fall of 1817, and to Darke Co. in March, 1820, and settled in Richland Township; he died July 4, 1861; she died in January, 1869. The subject of this sketch came here with his parents; when they came there were but three white settlers in the township, viz., James Stephenson, David Riffle and Jacob Hartel. Mr. Plessinger's family endured all the privations and hardships of frontier pioneer life for many years; wild animals and game were numerous and troublesome. Mr. Plessinger was a successful hunter; killed but one bear, but hundreds of deer, wild turkeys, etc. He has had his share of township offices. He married Mary Harmon Nov. 1, 1842; she was born in May, 1821, in Adams Co., Penn., and came to Darke Co. with her uncle, Philip Hartzell, in 1836; they have had twelve children, viz.: Joseph H., born Nov. 19, 1843, and died March 1, 1849; Faith, born Sept. 20, 1845, married George H. Winbigler; Sarah J., born Dec. 20, 1847, married Oscar Davison; Emma, born Dec. 18, 1849, married Walter Snyder; Anna M.





born Feb. 23, 1851; Lawson, born Feb. 19, 1853, died July, 1854; Almeda, born Dec. 28, 1854, died May 12, 1879; Lucy E., born Jan. 18, 1856, died Feb. 22, 1860; George A., born Oct. 17, 1858; Phillip E., born Oct. 8, 1860; Ezra, born Feb. 16, 1864; Clara N., born July 28, 1866. He owns 200 acres and a good home.

**JOB M. SHAFER**, farmer and stock-raiser. Sec. 27; P. O. Versailles; was born in Bedford Co., Penn., Sept. 4, 1830; his father, John Shafer, was born in the same county, July 17, 1802, and married Dorothy Mann Feb. 24, 1824, of the same county; she was born Feb. 20, 1804; his father, Sickfrit Shafer, was born in Virginia, and married Mary Hess; Mrs. John Shafer's father, Jacob Mann, was born July 27, 1763, and married Dorothy Hill June 13, 1786; she was born May 2, 1761; Mr. Jacob Mann died Nov. 5, 1830; Dorothy, his wife, died Aug. 6, 1845; John Shafer moved to Darke Co. in 1837; they had five children, viz.: Anna, born April 30, 1826, married Alexander B. Brandon; Mary, born June 9, 1828, died June 20, following; Job M., the subject of this sketch; Margaret, born Oct. 7, 1833; died Sept. 5, 1841, of the milk sickness, and Jacob, born Dec. 10, 1835, died Dec. 11, 1845. John, the father, resides where he first settled in Richland Township; his wife died April 11, 1875. Job M., the subject of this sketch, has always followed farming on the old homestead, where he now resides; he was elected Justice of the Peace in April, 1856, and served three years, and has been Township Trustee. He married Elizabeth Brandon March 20, 1851; she is the daughter of James R. Brandon, and was born in Darke Co. (see Alexander B. Brandon's biography in this work) Oct. 10, 1831; they have six children, viz.: Dennis, born Dec. 24, 1851; Margaret A., born March 11, 1855, married Cyrus White; John C., born May 13, 1858; Allen W., born March 30, 1862; Mary, born March 24, 1866, and Bertha, born Jan. 31, 1872. He owns 263 acres of land and a good home.

**DAVID J. STAHL**, farmer. Sec. 34; P. O. Versailles; was born in Adams Township, Darke Co., Ohio, Nov. 17, 1850, and is a son of Jacob K. and Sarah (Limber) Stahl; he was born in Pennsylvania in 1812, and died in Greenville Township in November, 1861; she resides with her daughter, Mrs. John C. Hill, in Newton, Miami Co., Ohio; he came to Darke Co. among the early settlers, with his father, Henry Stahl, therefore the family is identified among the first settlers of the county; he was noted for his enterprise and industry; he accumulated a large property; at his death he owned the grist and saw mills, with 40 acres of land in Coletown, a large landed property in Greenville, 266 acres in Adams Township, and the homestead farm, where the subject of this sketch resides, in Richland Township. David J. has always followed farming, and has resided in this county, except six years, during which he worked his mother's land in Miami Co., Ohio. He married Sarah Curtis Aug. 19, 1872; she was born near Fredericksburg, Miami Co., Ohio, July 16, 1850; her father, William Curtis, married Anna Feece; she was born Jan. 7, 1832; they reside near Troy, Miami Co., Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Stahl have three children, viz.: Leonia Belle, born Oct. 4, 1873; Daisy, born Dec. 6, 1875, and William Allen, born Oct. 14, 1877. He owns one-half of the homestead, containing 235 acres—the first land his father settled on in this county of his own.

**GEORGE H. WARVEL**, farmer. Sec. 6; P. O. Beamsville; was born in Rockingham Co., Va., July 27, 1829; his father, John Warvel, was born in the same county, May 29, 1798, and married Delilah Lepe, June 14, 1829; she also was born in the same place May 13, 1807, and resides with her son, the subject of this sketch; they moved to this place in the fall of 1844; John Warvel died Jan. 31, 1866, and was always a strong, robust farmer up to a year or two before he died. The subject of this sketch has always pursued the avocation of farming, except for a short time he followed carpentering; has been Trustee in this township, is a member of the order of A., F. & A. M. He married Mary Sines Nov. 6, 1856, daughter of Henry P. Simes, she was born Jan. 12, 1838, and died Aug. 17, 1865; by this union they





had three children, viz.: William A., born Sept. 2, 1857; two died in early infancy; his second marriage was with Lizzie Hartzell, Nov. 22, 1866; she was daughter of George Hartzell, deceased, and born June 8, 1845, in this county, and died March 16, 1868, leaving no issue living; his third marriage was with Susan M. Earhart, April 24, 1870; she was born Nov. 28, 1840, and was sister of his second wife, Lizzie; she died Feb. 10, 1875; by this union two children were born, viz.: Lilly Bell, born April 11, 1871, and died March 3, 1878, and John H., born May 4, 1872. Mr. Warvel owns 65 acres of land and a good home bordering Beamsville.

**DANIEL WARVEL**, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 32; P. O. Beamsville; was born in Warren Co., Ohio, Sept. 5, 1834; his father, Christopher, was born in Rockingham Co., Va., Feb. 27, 1796, and married Charlotte Lilly; she was born in the same county June 4, 1799; he died March 18, 1851, and she died March 14, 1855; they are buried in the cemetery on the old homestead on Sec. 13, in this township; they moved from Virginia to Warren Co., Ohio, and thence to Montgomery Co., and came to Darke Co. about 1839; when they endeavored to buy something to eat, on their arrival in Warren Co., they offered the last \$5 they possessed, and found it to be counterfeit, consequently they began life in Ohio with nothing; when they got to Darke Co. they had sufficient to buy their first 100 acres in the woods; they had nine children viz.: John H., William L., Sarah A., George C., Elizabeth, Mary, Adeline, deceased, Daniel and Margaret L.; Sarah A. married D. R. Hathaway; Elizabeth, Solomon Beam; Mary, Daniel Hartzell; Adeline, Andrew Coppess, and Margaret married Linas Hathaway. The subject of this sketch was raised a farmer, and remained at home with his parents until his mother's decease, he then made a trip to Virginia, and worked at farming and miscellaneous employment, for wages, by the month; at the age of 21, he bought 40 acres, and began a home for himself; has been honored with various township offices, was Township Clerk, Trustee, etc., was Justice of the Peace three years, and retired last spring. He married Catherine Ann Kaylor Jan. 1, 1856; she was born in Logan Co., Ohio, May 7, 1837; she died Feb. 3, 1857; they had one child, Joseph C., born Jan. 28, 1857; he is still living; his second marriage was celebrated March 21, 1858, with Sarah Powell; she was born in Monroe Co., Ohio, Jan. 27, 1836; they have five children, viz.: Mary A., born Dec. 18, 1858, she married Abraham Eley; Lucy E., born May 9, 1860; Laban, Dec. 10, 1861; Amos A., June 11, 1864, and Clement L., July 20, 1873. Mr. Warvel owns a good home and 227 acres of land.

**JOHN B. WERTS**, merchant and Postmaster at Dawn, Sec. 20; was born in Preble Co., Ohio, June 20, 1848; his father, William Werts, was born in Preble Co., Ohio, Dec. 25, 1826, and married Lydia Willson, who was born in Darke Co., June 20, 1827; he moved to Darke Co. in 1855, and engaged in coopering in this township; Mrs. Lydia Werts died Nov. 21, 1878. John B., the subject of this sketch, commenced clerking, with Creager Brothers, in Horatio, Darke Co., at the age of 10 years, which he followed until he moved to this place, in April 1873, where he engaged in business on his own account; he was appointed Postmaster Sept. 30, 1875, he is also express agent; he was Township Clerk six years in York Township. He married Mary J. Winbigler of Brock, this county, Oct. 15, 1872; they have one child, Minnie Claudia, born Nov. 15, 1874.





**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.**

**PETER E. ARMSTRONG.** farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 10 ; P. O. Hill Grove ; was born in Greenville Township, Darke Co., Ohio, Nov. 21, 1831, and is the son of John and Jane (Elston) Armstrong ; at the age of 18, he was living in Jackson Township, this county ; about that time the first church edifice was built there—a little log house, by the Methodists ; his early education was obtained in a very poor log hut, of small dimensions, but from his father he obtained good sound knowledge, as he was an educated gentleman before he emigrated into the wilderness ; he was an attorney at law, and in this county was Associate Judge of the Common Pleas a number of years, and Justice of the Peace twenty-four years ; he was one of the most highly respected and prominent men of the county during his lifetime. The subject of this sketch, ~~Peter E. is~~ Treasurer of this township ; has assessed the chattel property of this township five years ; a Trustee, etc. ; is a strong Union man, and a Republican. He married Catherine Henning July 25, 1854 ; she was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Nov. 22, 1830, and came to Darke Co. in her youth, with her parents, Jacob and Rebecca (Stiner) Henning ; they have four children, viz. : David, born Aug. 11, 1855 ; Sarah Jane, born Nov. 23, 1856 ; she married Andrew C. Bickel ; Hugh Lincoln, born June 15, 1860, and Mary Isabelle, born Nov. 29, 1867. Mr. Armstrong owns 148 acres, where he has resided twenty-four years ; this he has procured by his own unaided efforts and self-reliance ; himself and wife are members of the German Baptist Church.

**ANDREW BICKEL.** farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 15 ; P. O. Hill Grove ; was born in Brush Valley, Centre Co., Penn., Sept. 2, 1805 ; moved to Montgomery Co., Ohio, with his parents in 1811. His father, Andrew Bickel, was born in Pennsylvania, and married Catherine Gloss, born also in Pennsylvania ; he died in St. Joseph Co., Ind., in 1854, and she died here on Sec. 15 in 1858 ; he was drafted in the war of 1812, but hired a substitute. Andrew, the subject of this sketch, moved to this place, where he now resides, March 2, 1831, having entered 80 acres in August before ; he built his cabin of logs in the woods, without windows or doors, but in the fall he procured a plank, of which he made a door, using wooden pins for nails, being too poor to buy nails, or latch, or hinges, but his latch-string has always been out for a friend ; in 1833, he built a hewed-log house and weather-boarded it ; in this he still resides, a good, warm, substantial habitation ; he sold forty bushels of corn of his own raising for 25 cents a bushel, and every year since has had corn to sell ; and in the early days he never refused a neighbor a sack of corn whether he had the money or not ; in the first twelve years alone he cleared 50 acres ; after that his boys were old enough to help him, and they did. He married Nancy Moyer May 30, 1830 ; she was born in Rockingham Co., Va., Aug. 27, 1810. Mr. and Mrs. Bickel have had ten children, viz. : Henry, born Jan. 2, 1831 ; John, born Feb. 23, 1832 ; William, born Oct. 10, 1833, died Nov. 22, 1853 ; Catherine, born Feb. 9, 1839 ; Daniel, born Oct. 21, 1837 ; Sally, born Dec. 2, 1839, died March 30, 1843 ; Elizabeth, born Jan. 3, 1842 ; Abigail, born Jan. 19, 1844, died March 20, 1853 ; Mary, born April 25, 1847, died May 21, 1847, and Andrew, born June 15, 1852. Catherine married Henry Blocher ; Elizabeth married John J. Norris. Mr. Bickel is hale and hearty, and says at the age of 60 he could cut and split from the stump 200 rails, or cut and put up two cords of hard wood in a day. He voted for Andrew Jackson in 1832. He now owns the old homestead of 120 acres, where he resides.

**DANIEL W. BICKEL.** farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 17 ; P. O. Hill Grove ; was born in Clermont Co., Ohio, Nov. 11, 1833, and is the eldest son of Tobias Bickel, of Sec. 18, Washington Township, who was born in Centre Co., Penn., May



6, 1811, and married Elizabeth McAdams, of Hamilton Co., Ohio, in June, 1837; she was born in that county Nov. 15, 1815. Tobias Bickel moved to where he now resides in 1848; he followed teaming in Cincinnati until he was 25 years of age; he had no advantages for an education in his youth, but has given all his children good opportunities, which they have improved; they have had eleven children, viz.: Daniel, Margaret, Hamilton A., Sarah E., deceased; Catherine, deceased; John J., Nancy J., Joseph, Elijah, Stephen R., deceased, and Marcus D. Mr. T. Bickel has been a successful and thrifty farmer ever since he came to Darke Co. and owns, free and clear, 240 acres, which he has redeemed from a wilderness of swamps, by open and blind ditching, as well as clearing of heavy timber. The subject of this sketch, at the age of 20, commenced teaching school, and followed it four years; has been Assessor of the township for two years, and Clerk one year. He married Rebecca Chenoweth, daughter of John Chenoweth, deceased, of this township, Sept. 28, 1861; she was born May 25, 1838. They have had three children, viz.: the first died unnamed; John H., born Oct. 29, 1863, and Ira E., born Feb. 28, 1866. He owns a fine home and 156 acres of land; himself and wife are members of the Methodist Church.

HENRY M. BICKEL, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 8; P. O. Hill Grove; was born Jan. 2, 1831, in Montgomery County, Ohio, and came with his parents to Darke County in April following; his father, Andrew Bickel, was born in Centre County, Penn., Sept. 2, 1805, and married Nancy Moyer, who was born in Virginia Aug. 27, 1810; both hale and hearty, are now living on the farm they bought in 1830, at that time in an unbroken wilderness, in Washington Township, though they experienced all the hardships and privations so well known to all the early settlers of this portion of Ohio, but now, instead of the wilderness, amid the most fertile and productive agricultural land of the State, Henry M., the subject of this sketch, has owned the farm (234 acres) where he lives twenty-three years; this also has he redeemed from wilderness and swamps to bountiful productiveness, being among, if not the very first man to "blind tile," which is the making of the fine farms in Darke County; now he is surrounded by abundance and comfort; at 21 years, he was not worth a dollar, and possesses to-day the first silver dollar that he earned, by cutting eight cords of hardwood. June 12, 1856, he married Mary Crumrine; she was born in Darke County July 8, 1839; they have had six children, viz., John C., Lucy C. (deceased), Mary A., Dora (deceased), Harrison C. and Henry I.

SAMUEL W. BLOCHER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 23; P. O. Greenville; is the youngest son of Samuel Blocher, of Washington Township, and was born in this township Oct. 20, 1845; was raised a farmer, and has continued to follow it successfully, and has just erected for himself one of the finest brick residences in this county. He married Catherine M. Glunt, daughter of Joseph Glunt, deceased; they have three children, viz.: Ira, born July 22, 1873; Hugh, Feb. 12, 1876; and Myrtle, Aug. 6, 1878. Mr. B. owns 183 acres of fine farming land adjoining the homestead of his father.

THOMAS F. CHENOWETH, farmer and brickmason, Sec. 32; P. O. Darke; was born in Franklin County, Ohio, July 17, 1808; his father, John Chenoweth, was born in Virginia, and married Betsey Foster; she was born in Maryland July 16, 1788; he died in Tippecanoe County, Ind., in 1865; she died in Darke County, Ohio, in 1876; the family moved to this section in February, 1818. (See biography of Jacob B. Chenoweth.) The subject of this sketch attended school with about an equal number of white and colored children, as the Clemens (colored) settlement was made soon after they moved here; up to the age of 21, Mr. Chenoweth followed farming, then learned the brickmason's trade, which, with farming, he has ever since followed; was elected Justice of the Peace in 1852, and served until 1879 (twenty-seven years). He married Christina Thomas Nov. 10, 1831; she was born in Anderson County, Tenn., Feb. 1, 1810; her father, John Thomas, married Catherine Albright Oct. 31, 1799; she was born March 14, 1784.



the first of these is the fact that the earth is not a perfect sphere, but is flattened at the poles and bulged at the equator. This is due to the fact that the earth is rotating, and the centrifugal force of rotation causes the material at the equator to be pushed outwards. The second of these is the fact that the earth is not a uniform body, but is composed of different layers of material. The outermost layer is the crust, which is composed of solid rock. Below the crust is the mantle, which is composed of molten material. At the center of the earth is the core, which is composed of molten iron and nickel. The fact that the earth is not a perfect sphere and is composed of different layers of material is what makes it possible for us to live on its surface.

The third of these is the fact that the earth is not a static body, but is constantly changing. The surface of the earth is constantly being reshaped by the forces of erosion and deposition. The interior of the earth is constantly being reshaped by the forces of convection and plate tectonics. The fact that the earth is constantly changing is what makes it possible for us to live on its surface. The fourth of these is the fact that the earth is not a uniform body, but is composed of different layers of material. The outermost layer is the crust, which is composed of solid rock. Below the crust is the mantle, which is composed of molten material. At the center of the earth is the core, which is composed of molten iron and nickel. The fact that the earth is not a uniform body and is composed of different layers of material is what makes it possible for us to live on its surface.

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both were born in North Carolina and died in Preble County, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Chenoweth have had the following children, viz., Lewis A., born Aug. 6, 1832, died April 4, 1836; John, born Nov. 19, 1833; Louisa, Dec. 16, 1835; Nelson T., Oct. 8, 1837; Emeline, Dec. 7, 1839, died Feb. 18, 1840; Catherine, born Jan. 13, 1843; Joel T., Dec. 29, 1844; Mary Jane, Sept. 18, 1848; and Benjamin F., Sept. 27, 1852; Louisa married Milton Jefferis, Catherine married Daniel Clapp, Mary Jane married George McClure. In the winter of 1830 and 1831, Mr. Chenoweth hauled with a four-horse team out of Greenville all the wheat that was marketed there at that time, i. e., two loads a day, twenty-five bushels to the load; it was sold for  $37\frac{1}{2}$  cents per bushel in merchandise. He owns a good farm of 160 acres.

JACOB B. CHENOWETH, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 17; P. O. Hill Grove; was born in Pike Co., Ohio, May 13, 1824, and came with his parents to Washington Township, where he now resides, in December, 1829; his father, John Chenoweth, was born in Pike Co., Ohio, Nov. 7, 1797, and is said to be the first white child born on the Scioto River in that county; he married Mary E. Barger April 13, 1820; she was born in Virginia in 1797; her father, Jacob Barger, was born March 13, 1769, and married Susan Barger, who was born in Germany; he died Sept. 7, 1822, and she died Oct. 24, 1845. Jacob B., the subject of this sketch, began life poor; he worked for small wages, farming up to 1850; his limited education he procured here in a hut built of round logs, small and so low a big boy could barely stand upright; in place of glass window-lights was greased white paper, through which only dim knowledge could be obtained. He married Sarah Wagemon Sept. 10, 1857; she was born in Darke Co., Sept. 8, 1837; her father, William Wagemon, was born in Pennsylvania, and married Mary Baker, of Virginia; he died in Wabash Co., Ind., in the winter of 1867; she died in Randolph Co., Ind., in March, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Chenoweth have four children, viz., John W., born Sept. 6, 1858; Mary A., Oct. 21, 1860; Flora J., March 30, 1863; and Ira O., March 15, 1874. He owns 100 acres and a good home; he has been Supervisor, Trustee, School Director, etc., but has never aspired to public office.

JOSEPH COLE, JR., retired farmer, Sec. 33; P. O. Darke; was born in Washington Township, Darke Co., Dec. 29, 1823; at the age of 17, he began teaching school in the first schoolhouse erected in Washington Township, and followed teaching most of the time until he was 30 years old; he built and managed a saw-mill about three years; he went into merchandising in Coletown and followed it four years; he since has followed dealing in live-stock and farming; he has never been a political aspirant; he is now Secretary of the Darke County Pioneer Society. His father, Samuel Cole, was born in Sussex Co., N. J., July 3, 1787, and married Mary Elston, of the same county, in 1812; she was born Nov. 27, 1792; his father, Samuel Cole, was born on the Hudson River, near New York City, Nov. 5, 1751. He first married Janey Davis; she was born July 2, 1755; his second wife was Anna Rider; she was born Oct. 25, 1760; his father was David Cole, a descendant of the Coles who were among the first settlers of New York City or New Amsterdam; Samuel Cole, the father of the subject of this sketch, moved to Washington Township in March, 1817; his father came the next year and died here Jan. 8, 1829; Samuel, father of Joseph, the subject of this sketch, died in Greenville Township, this county, Feb. 21, 1866; he was a farmer but taught the first school in Washington Township; he was the first Justice of the Peace, and was Township Clerk in 1823; his widow Mary, died Aug. 10, 1831; they had eight children, viz.: William, born July 25, 1813, in New Jersey, died April 3, 1836; Asa, born July 26, 1815, in New Jersey, died May 29, 1857; Jane, born April 20, 1817; the first white child born in Washington Township; she married Leonard Wintermute, and now resides in Greenville Township; Betsey, born March 23, 1819, died Feb. 6, 1872; she married George Elston, deceased; Samuel, born April 5, 1821; Joseph, Dec. 29, 1823; Polley, — 18, 1826, died Sept. 25, 1831, and Henry, June 20, 1829; he is a Christian minister and resides in Kansas. Joseph, the subject of





this sketch, married Sarah Ann Shively April 6, 1850; she is the daughter of Daniel Shively, and was born May 14, 1831; they have had seven children, viz.: Arthur born Jan. 18, 1851, died March 16, 1852; Wallace S., born April 6, 1853; Flora A., born March 26, 1855; she married B. F. Chenoweth; William H., born Dec. 16, 1859; Mary C., born April 23, 1862; Charlie W., born Oct. 12, 1866, and Benjamin F., Nov. 12, 1874.

**JAMES B. CREVISTON.** school teacher. Sec. 4; P. O. Hill Grove; was born in Washington Township, Darke Co., Ohio, Jan. 17, 1826. His father, Henry Creviston, was born in Bedford Co., Penn., in February, 1780, and married Mary Burnham, of North Carolina; they moved to Darke Co., Ohio, in 1808, and settled near Greenville; he mainly followed farming, but was a noted hunter, as game was abundant and the country a dense forest; he was in the war of 1812, and acted as scout for Gen. William H. Harrison, from Ft. Greenville to Tippecanoe and other points in the Northwest, among the Indians; he died in September, 1855; his wife survived him until February, 1865. James B. Creviston commenced teaching school at Hill Grove, where he now resides, in 1849, and has continued up to this time, within the four adjoining districts, and is now the oldest native teacher in the county, and if not the first, he was the second, white child born in this township. In April, 1861, he enlisted in Co. I, 11th O. V. I.; went out as first Lieutenant, and on Sept. 9, following, was appointed Adjutant of the 49th Ohio Regiment under Col. Jonathan Cranor, and served until discharged, on account of inflammatory rheumatism; he was commissioned Captain of Co. G, of the 193d Ohio Regiment of Infantry in February, 1865, and served until the surrender of all the rebel armies; was mustered out in September, 1865. He married Mary Ohler Aug. 29, 1849; she was born in this township Sept. 23, 1849; they have had four children, viz.: Kate, born July 1, 1851 (she married Henry Cook); Bruce, born Sept. 20, 1859 (died Nov. 7, 1860); Johnny, born Oct. 18, 1867 (died Aug. 21, 1868); and Mary Agnes, born July 22, 1872. Himself and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church; in politics, he is a Republican.

**JOHN FLORY,** farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 9; P. O. Hill Grove; was born in Palestine, Darke Co., Ohio, Oct. 21, 1841. His father, Daniel Flory, was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio May 13, 1817, and came with his parents to German Township, in Darke Co., in his youth; he learned the tinner's trade, and was the first, and for many years the only tinner in Washington Township, which was his principal business during life. He died on his homestead in Sec. 10, Washington Township, Nov. 4, 1873, where he owned 182 acres of land. He married Eliza Wise, of Darke Co., who died about 1849; by this marriage were six children, all of whom are now living. His second marriage was with Elizabeth Morgan, of Maryland, in December, 1851, by whom were nine children, three of whom only are living—John Flory learned the tinner's trade also, which he followed only for a short time, giving his attention mainly to farming; he married Rebecca Friend Oct. 19, 1865; she was born in Darke Co., Ohio June 15, 1849; they have six children, viz.: Rachel, born Oct. 30, 1867; Emma, born Nov. 13, 1870; Sirilda, born July 20, 1872; Sarah, born May 20, 1874; Jesse, born Sept. 15, 1876, and Joseph E., born Aug. 5, 1878. He owns 73 acres of land; Mr. and Mrs. Flory belong to the German Baptist Church, of which he is a Deacon.

**ELIZABETH (CRUMRINE) GLUNT,** widow of Joseph Glunt, deceased Sec. 17; P. O. Union City, Ind. Her husband, Joseph Glunt, was born June 5, 1822, and departed this life May 1, 1878, after a lingering illness, which he bore with patience and Christian fortitude; he had been a member of the German Baptist Church for seventeen years. They commenced life in a very poor little log hut, which now stands in the rear of the pleasant home, and is used as a stable. The gentlemen and ladies of to-day would hardly desire to make such a beginning, but from such beginnings have grown all the wealth and prosperity of this country. This hut was erected in the wilderness, but is now surrounded by beautiful and productive farms. Mr. Glunt, when married, had only a cow, two



horses and a few farming tools, thus showing what untiring industry and indomitable will will accomplish. The farm consists of 427 acres of excellent land. Mr. Glunt married Elizabeth Crumrine, daughter of Moses Crumrine, one of the earliest settlers of this county, June 7, 1849; she was born in Darke Co., Ohio, July 22, 1832; they have had five children, viz.: Catherine M., born March 21, 1850; she married Samuel W. Blocker; Mary E., born Sept. 18, 1852; she married Samuel Mote; Isaac N., born Sept. 18, 1856; Harrison, July 11, 1863, died Aug. 27, 1863, and Harvey M., born Dec. 11, 1864.

FREDRICK HOUP, retired farmer, Sec. 33; P. O. Darke, Ohio; was born in Lebanon Co., Penn., Aug. 10, 1814; his father, Fredrick Houpt, was born in Schuylkill Co., Penn. The subject of this sketch, at the age of 12, went to work on a farm and worked five years for his board and clothes; he then learned the cooper's trade; moved to Dayton, Ohio, in 1833, worked at farming in summer and in winter at his trade; in the spring of 1846, he moved to where he now resides; the first land he owned was 25 acres, which he bought in the wilderness in the eastern part of Darke County, for \$275; he sold it for \$1,000 in 1856. He married Sarah Wilds April 2, 1844; she was born in Ohio, Aug. 16, 1815, and died Feb. 7, 1879; they have had four children, viz.: a little boy, died unnamed; John, born Feb. 16, 1849, died Nov. 5, 1869; David, born Nov. 4, 1851, and Sarah Ann, Dec. 27, 1854; she married Calvin Young; David resides at home; he married Almira Heck April 10, 1873; she was born in German Township, Darke Co., March 28, 1855, and died March 30, 1876; they had one boy, William F., born Nov. 19, 1873, died Feb. 6, 1875. His second marriage was with Phoebe Rodgers, Dec. 26, 1878; she was born in Washington Township April 21, 1858. Fredrick Houpt owns a good home and 623 acres of land, and other good houses and buildings.

SAMUEL HUFFER, farmer, Sec. 2; P. O. Hill Grove, Ohio; who is a son of Jacob and Barbara (Bechtel) Huffer; was born in Maryland, Sept. 24, 1799; the father moved to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in the fall of 1830, and to Darke County in 1838, to Harrison Township; in 1844, they moved to where a portion of the family now reside, in Sec. 2, Washington Township; he died Feb. 15, 1873; his widow, Catherine, died Feb. 16, 1879; they had seven children, viz.: Aaron, born April 19, 1830; Jacob, Jan. 6, 1832, deceased; Elizabeth, born Dec. 19, 1834, deceased; Samuel (the subject of this sketch), born March 31, 1836; Reuben, April 13, 1839; Magdalena, July 13, 1844; she married Jonathan Hart; and Malinda, born June 7, 1846; he followed farming during his lifetime; two of his sons, Aaron and Samuel, and son-in-law, J. Hart, established a tile factory on the old homestead in 1874, where they are turning out large quantities of tile of excellent quality. Aaron and Samuel remain unmarried and live in their paternal residence with Howard and Rebecca Hart, and own 200 acres of land which their father and his sons have converted from a wilderness to fine productive meadows and fields; their first residence here cost, erected and covered, \$6, which exhausted their exchequer; in this they resided four years; in 1852, the present home was built; all the privations and hardships of pioneer life have been experienced by this family. Elizabeth Huffer married Ambrose Green, whose daughter, Rebecca A. (born June 19, 1858), married Charles H. Hart, born in Berks Co., Penn., July 11, 1855; they have one child, Mary Myrtle Hart, born July 1, 1879.

ISAAC KAUCHER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 9; P. O. Hill Grove; was born in Patter's Township, Center Co., Penn., Sept. 17, 1805; went with his parents to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1808; his father, Godfrey Kaucher, was born in Berks Co., Penn., Sept. 1, 1774, and married Christina Fay; she was born in the same county Aug. 14, 1773; he died Nov. 13, 1850, and she died April 13, 1855; both are buried on the old homestead. The family moved to Washington Township, Darke Co., in 1831; in his early days, Godfrey Kaucher followed milling, but, after he came here, farming. Isaac, the subject of this sketch, obtained only three months' schooling in his youth, and then in a German school; previous to 1830,





he followed distilling; ever since, has followed farming. He married Welshey Miller Dec. 30, 1835; she was born in Tompkins Co., N. Y., Feb. 29, 1820; they have five children, viz.: Margaret, born Oct. 23, 1836; she married Alfred Bliccard Elizabeth, Aug. 3, 1838; Washington, Oct. 17, 1840; Sarah, March 27, 1843; John, July 14, 1845. John, the youngest, resides with his parents, and married Sarah Emrich Sept. 6, 1868; she is deceased, leaving two children—Cora and Isaac. Mr. Kaucher owns 95 acres of land and a good home.

MICHAEL KAUCHER, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 9; P. O. Hill Grove was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, Aug. 13, 1813; has always followed farming never attended any but a German school; his father, Godfrey Kaucher, was born in Berks Co., Penn., Sept. 1, 1774, and married Christina Fay, who was born in the same county Aug. 14, 1773; they moved to Montgomery Co., Ohio, in 1808 and to Washington Township, Darke Co., in 1831; he died Nov. 13, 1850, and she died April 13, 1855; both are buried on the old homestead in Sec. 9; they had nine children, viz., Jacob (deceased), Hannah (deceased), Elizabeth (she married William Oswald), Abraham, Isaac, Joseph, Christina, Michael and Rebecca; the three last are living on the old homestead. In his early days, Michael was quite a hunter of wild game, which was very abundant; he has killed, probably, fifty deer, and great numbers of wild turkeys and smaller game; he owns the old homestead, 91 acres, and a good home.

JAMES McNEIL, merchant, Justice of the Peace and Postmaster, Sec. 34; residence, Darke; was born in Breckenridge Co., Ky., Sept. 1, 1835; moved to Darke Co., Ohio, with his parents, in 1844; from 1856 to 1862, he followed school teaching, then went into merchandising where he now resides, in Sec. 34; in 1864, he volunteered for 100-days service in 152d O. N. G.; after rendering his faithful and loyal service to his country, through much tribulation, he was honorably discharged; he returned to his home and resumed his business; was appointed Postmaster April 9, 1875, and elected Justice of the Peace in April, 1879. He married Mary Harter Oct. 15, 1861; she was born in Darke Co., Ohio, April 6, 1843; they have had four children, viz.: William H., born March 23, 1862, died Feb. 6, 1868; Viola, June 14, 1867; David R., Jan. 3, 1869; Linna May, Oct. 14, 1873. David G. McNeil, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Lancaster Co., Penn., in 1796, and his mother, Harriet (Lay) McNeil, in Fairfax Co., Va., March 8, 1808.

JAMES N. MORRISON, Justice of the Peace and farmer, Sec. 4; P. O. Hill Grove. He was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, July 28, 1834, and moved to Darke Co. with his parents in 1841; his father, Nathaniel Morrison, was born in Virginia, and his mother, Catherine (Ludy) Morrison, in Maryland; they first settled in Butler Township; in 1863, James N. moved to Hill Grove and entered into general merchandising business; sold out in the fall of 1865 and went into the live-stock business, which he followed two years, then went to farming and huckstering; at this time, in addition to his official duties, he gave his attention to farming; he was elected Justice of the Peace in April, 1871; was appointed Postmaster at Hill Grove Feb. 23, 1877. He is a member of the church of United Brethren in Christ. Nov. 1, 1857, he was married to Amanda Nyswonger, daughter of Daniel Nyswonger, of Butler Township, this county, and has had ten children, viz., Frank D., John H. M., Laura A., Floretta F., Charles E., Emma E., William G., James E. (deceased), Myrtle M. and George.

HENRY SNELL, retired farmer, Sec. 27; P. O. Darke. He was born in Hamilton Co., Ohio, Jan. 14, 1812; his father, John Snell, was born in Hagerstown, Md., in 1782, and married Mary Shively, of Pennsylvania; they moved to Washington Township, Darke Co., June 4, 1817, making the first wagon track on the west side of the second branch of Greenville Creek, from south of what is now Nashville to "Sharp Eye;" the country was all wilderness, and for six months Mrs. Snell never saw the face of a white woman, but Indians were numerous, and wild game of every description; deer were more plenty than sheep are to-day





the first schoolhouse had yet to be built, and for many years the first elements of education were hard to obtain. The subject of this sketch cast his first vote in Washington Township for Andrew Jackson, but ever since has voted on the Republican side; he began life with nothing, learned early the cooper's trade, and commenced the business on his own account in 1831: followed it about fourteen years, until his health failed him, then he went to buying and selling live stock and farming; but for the last twenty years, he has rented out his farms and speculated in lands and houses. He married Mary Shively Sept. 11, 1836; she was born on Sec. 27, where they reside, Aug. 24, 1818; they never had any children of their own, but have raised two sets, all of whom are doing well in business, and are well settled in independent circumstances; Mr. Snell owns 438 acres, with good farm-houses and outbuildings.

**DANIEL SNELL**, retired farmer, Sec. 23; P. O. Darke. He was born in Warren Co., Ohio, March 1, 1809, and moved with his parents, John and Mary (Shively) Snell, to the place where they now reside, June 4, 1817; they at once erected a log house, 18x20 feet, of round logs, with mother earth for the floor; the following winter, twenty persons found cover and home in this hut, not very comfortably, either, especially after the old sow and her pigs were given quarters in one corner, to keep them from freezing; four or five years later, they erected a more eligible house by adding another room; Daniel Snell resides near the spot where they first settled. He married Maria Rush Nov. 8, 1834; she was born in a block-house or stockade on Mud Creek, three miles from Greenville, in this county, in May, 1813; her father and mother, Henry and Rachel (Creviston) Rush, came from Pennsylvania and settled on the Scioto River, and moved to Darke Co. in 1808; she died March 14, 1852: Mr. and Mrs. Snell have had six children, viz.: Mary E., born Sept. 4, 1835, married Randolph Harrison; Thomas R., born July 21, 1837, died March 5, 1852; Alonzo V., born Feb. 6, 1839, died March 9, 1872; William H., born March 16, 1841, died in November, 1863; Rachel J., born Dec. 17, 1844, married William Moyer, and John R., born Oct. 18, 1850; he married Margaret E. Wenger, youngest child of Elias and Catherine Wenger, Oct. 26, 1872; she was born in this township Dec. 19, 1850; they live in the old homestead, and have four children, viz.: Estella, born July 26, 1873; Katie M., born May 5, 1875; Walter W., born Nov. 21, 1876, and Jennie, born Feb. 17, 1878; they own the first farm her father bought and part of the first his grandfather bought in Darke Co.—113 acres.

**THOMAS E. TEAL**, grocer, Sec. 4; P. O. Hill Grove; was born in Wabash Co., Ind., May 6, 1837, and moved to this township in 1858; was raised a farmer, but has followed the grocery business from the time he moved to this county; is and has been four years County Coroner; was Postmaster many years, and is now acting deputy; the office is and has been in his store about twelve years; has been School Director a number of years, also railroad and express agent; when a boy in Wabash Co., Ind., his nearest neighbors and playmates were Indians: thus fresh in his memory are the recollections of border life, the games, sports, and turbulence of semi-civilization; his father, Walter Teal, settled there, on Eel River, in 1836; he was born in Vermont Dec. 11, 1784, and married Rebecca Stephenson, of Fairfield Co., Ohio (where she was born Jan. 7, 1807); he died Dec. 11, 1844—she March 23, 1878. Thomas E. Teal married Ellen Crouse, of Darke Co., Ohio, Feb. 1, 1862; she died Jan. 8, 1864, leaving one daughter, Olive R.; his second marriage was with Lucetta Heckerman, of the same place (Hill Grove) Feb. 27, 1868.

**CAPT. JAMES M. WHITE**, farmer and school-teacher; P. O. Mt. Heron; born in Paterson, N. J., March 11, 1828; when quite young, he emigrated with his parents to Kentucky, and in 1840 came to Ohio and located in Ross Co. and completed his education in the high school at Chillicothe, and the Academies at Lebanon and Delaware; at 20 years of age, he engaged in school-teaching, which profession he followed until July, 1862, when he enlisted in the 91st O. V. I. and



went forward to battle for the Union : he served through the campaign of West Virginia ; after which he served under Gen. Sheridan during the campaign of the Shenandoah Valley, and was mustered out of service as Captain of Co. F of the above regiment, at Cumberland, Md., in July, 1865, having served in the Union army three years ; he then returned to Ross Co. and followed farming and school-teaching two years, and after a residence of five years in Clinton Co. came to Darke Co. in 1872, purchased a farm in Washington Township, and has since devoted his attention to farming and school-teaching. In 1874, he organized the Mt. Heron National Guards, which formed a part of the 3d Regiment ; was elected Captain, which office he held until 1879, when, on account of physical disability, he received an honorable discharge. In 1854, he was united in marriage with Rachel A., daughter of John Chenoweth, one of the early pioneers of Darke Co. ; they have five children now living, having lost three by death ; the living are Mary Jane, Annie, Elizabeth and Thomas ; the deceased were Alice, Sarah and Lucina.

JAMES M. WASSON, farmer, Sec. 7 ; P. O. Union City, Ind. ; was born in Butler Co., Ohio, Jan. 19, 1811 ; came with his parents to Darke Co. in 1816. His father, David Wasson, married Flora Graham in Pennsylvania ; both were natives of Ireland ; when they moved to Darke Co. there were very few whites here, but a great many friendly Indians ; the country a wilderness and swamps ; their currency, mostly hoop-poles and the skins and pelts of wild animals, which were abundant ; and Mr. J. M. Wasson, the subject of this sketch, became a great hunter ; three large black bears and many a noble buck and doe, and smaller game too numerous to remember, have succumbed to his unerring rifle ; his first 40 acres he bought from the Government, and paid for it with the proceeds from furs and pelts of his own killing ; this land has never changed title, and he owns altogether 200 acres ; at the age of 25, he could neither read nor write, but began then to educate himself, and soon obtained sufficient for all ordinary business affairs. He married Christina Hover July 14, 1835 ; she was born in Pendleton Co., Va., March 14, 1816 ; they have had seven children, viz., Mary Ann, David F., deceased ; Luther N., deceased ; Peter C., Flora J. and Elizabeth A. Mr. and Mrs. Wasson are and have been members of the Presbyterian Church for forty years.

## PATTERSON TOWNSHIP.

JOHN DAY, farmer, Sec. 17 ; P. O. Willow Dell. Solomon Day, the father of John, was born in Loudoun Co., Va., on the 17th day of December, 1812 ; he moved with his parents to Pennsylvania when about 3 years of age, after which he came with his parents to Belmont Co., Ohio, in the year 1828, where he remained about two years, thence with his parents to Darke Co. in 1832 ; he then went to Piquet, Miami Co., and drove team for David Jordon, drawing crockery and building stone for one year, after which he returned home ; he was united in marriage with Sarah Myers, in Shelby Co., near Houston, Dec 4, 1834 ; she was born in Miami Co. Aug. 4, 1816 ; he then moved upon his father-in-law's place and farmed one season, during which time he entered 40 acres in Darke Co., Patterson Township ; this was in the year 1835 ; he then erected a nice little cabin, and moved into it in the spring of 1836 ; tapped a few sugar trees and went to his father-in-law's, leaving his brave wife and one child in charge of the cabin ; she tended the sugar camp while he was away through the week, and on Saturday nights he would return and boil sugar water ; this he continued to do for about three weeks, the distance being ten miles of which he would walk home Saturday night and return Sunday morning, and for the fruits of this labor, their sirup and sugar that they made was equal to the best in the State ; his industrious and hard-working wife cleared off, made and planted garden in his absence ; they remained on this place some fifteen





years, meeting with good success, and in 1848 he bought 85 acres in Sec. 17, in the same township, where he built a hewed-log house, his wife helping him to saw out the windows and doors, and also to clear off a garden spot, moving into the house in April, 1851; while raising his house, he came very near being killed by falling from the top joist to the ground below; in this house he continued to live until his death, which occurred June 13, 1872, with cerebro-spinal meningitis; Mr. and Mrs. Day passed through the many struggles, trials and incidents common to pioneer life; was a member of the Christian Church some thirteen years, and lived a devoted and consistent Christian till the angel of death came and relieved him of this earthly tenement; Mrs. Day is still living in the old home farm, enjoying good health, and is 63 years of age; nine children was the fruit of this union, of which four are living, viz.: Rhoda, born May 27, 1837, now Mrs. J. W. Puterbaugh; May J., born May 29, 1839, now Mrs. S. J. Hixon; John, born Feb. 17, 1849, and Solomon J., born Jan. 13, 1857; Mr. Day had his full share of offices, being Justice of the Peace for nine years; Township Clerk one year; Treasurer one year, and Trustee one year. Our subject was born in Darke Co. on the 17th day of February, 1849, and lived with his parents and worked on the farm and attended the district school in the winter till he was 16 years of age, after which he did not attend school but four days, but by his own exertions has obtained a good common-school education; he continued to work at home until he was 21 years of age, and at that time he came to the conclusion to remain on the home farm, where he has since lived; he bought 80 acres of land in Sec. 18, paying \$1,300, in the year 1871; sold out in 1873, for \$1,600, and in 1874 bought 64 acres in Sec. 17, paying \$1,508, and in 1876 sold this place for \$2,500, and during the same year he bought 77½ acres in Sec. 17, paying \$3,500, and in 1879 sold 60 acres for \$2,200; has been Trustee one year, and Supervisor two years, and is a Republican in politics; Mr. Day was employed in the boat-yards at Wheeling, Va., with the Skags Brothers, building boats, working about two years altogether.

STEPHEN A. GREER, physician; P. O. Willow Dell. Aaron, the father of Stephen A., was a native of Kentucky, born in Bourbon Co. on the 23d day of November, 1785; Elizabeth, his wife, whose maiden name was Reed, was a native of Ohio, born in Chillicothe in August, 1792; they were united in marriage in Montgomery Co., Ohio, and in 1816 moved to Darke Co., where they resided till death called them from earth to heaven; he departed this life in March, 1848, being 62 years 11 months and 23 days old; she sank peacefully to rest March 5, 1871, at the ripe old age of 79. Stephen A., the subject of this memoir, was born in Darke Co., Ohio, on the 8th of June, 1817, being the first white child born in Wayne Township; he spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, assisting in the clearing and the cultivation of the soil, during the summer months, and in the winter season he attended the district school, which was held in an old log cabin, thereby obtaining a good common-school education; he commenced to read medicine under Dr. L. Houston, of Shelby Co., Ohio, when he was 22 years of age; taught school during the winters and read medicine till his funds ran out, then he would go to work, and managed in this way till he had gained sufficient knowledge of medicine to practice; he now came to the conclusion that he would take in a partner for life, and on the 19th day of September, 1839, he celebrated his marriage with Miss Huldah Brandon, in Versailles, Ohio; she is a native of Ohio, born in Versailles, on the 11th day of October, 1823; her mother, Lydia, was a native of New Jersey, born on the 12th of September, 1803, and departed this life Feb. 28, 1877; her father, Vincent G. Brandon, was born in Virginia on the 31st of December, 1793, and departed this life, Jan. 5, 1870; after his marriage, he taught school and continued the study of medicine; in 1845, he moved to Ft. Recovery and opened an office, where he followed his profession, meeting with good success, remaining there about one year, after which he moved to New Harrison, Darke Co., in the spring of 1847; he practiced here till 1848, when he moved to Patterson Township, and during the winter of 1849 and 1850 attended the Eclectic Medical Institute of





Cincinnati. When he moved to Patterson Township, it was a gloomy outlook, as he moved into an old log cabin, covered with clapboards, and, as he says, "we did not have an overplus of furniture;" he purchased 40 acres in Sec. 20, for which he paid \$200, the tract being all heavy timber; he now built a hewn-log house, into which he moved his family, and commenced the task of opening up a farm, and, at the same time, practiced medicine; he would work in the clearing during the day time, and at night study medicine, and, as he says, "I am not done reading yet." The Doctor has accumulated a considerable amount of property by his hard labor, in which he has been nobly assisted by his good and amiable wife; he is strictly temperate in all his habits; he owns 140 acres of land in Patterson Township, 80 acres in Kansas, near Garnett, the American House and City Livery Stable, in Versailles; he is in no sense of the term a political aspirant, although he has filled nearly every office in the township; in the fall of 1855, he was elected County Commissioner, which office he filled for three years; in 1870, was elected Land Appraiser; served as Township Trustee for several years, also Township Clerk, and is now filling the office of Land Appraiser. They are the parents of ten children, of whom eight are living viz., Rachael J., born Sept. 16, 1836; Vincent B., May 19, 1844; Aaron R., Jan. 19, 1847; Lydia A., Sept. 15, 1849; Millnor, Dec. 16, 1852; Stephen, Aug. 26, 1859, Mary B., Oct. 10, 1862; Elizabeth Irene, born Jan. 6, 1866. The Doctor was admitted to the bar of Greenville, Ohio, as an attorney and counsellor at law, on the 12th day of May, 1858; this acquisition he picked up himself by his own hard study, and it is said of him that he is an able attorney, a wise judge and a good pleader.

## YORK TOWNSHIP.

JACKSON HOLLOWAY, farmer and school-teacher, Sec. 8; P. O. Dawn; was born in Darke Co., Ohio, March 1, 1828; his father, John D. Holloway, was born in Pennsylvania Feb. 1, 1795; when but a boy, he went to Warren Co., Ohio, with his parents; he served as a Corporal under Gen. Winfield Scott during the war of 1812; he moved to Montgomery Co., Ohio, and in 1817, to Darke Co., Richland Township, and the same year married Catherine Miller, of Darke Co., on his coming here, he camped on the banks of Stillwater Creek till he cut his logs and erected a two-story cabin, assisted by the Indians; he afterward cleared off a large farm; twelve years he served as Justice of the Peace; in 1859, he moved to Beamsville and engaged in keeping hotel for four years, then moved back to his farm, which he sold in 1864; he then returned to Beamsville and engaged in merchandising; he died Sept. 6, 1866; his wife died July 10, 1871. Jackson the subject of this sketch, remained at home with his parents until he was 24 years of age; he then married Rachael Ann Stevenson; she was born Aug. 10, 1828; her father, John Stevenson, was born in Boone Co., Ky., April 16, 1803; he moved to Darke Co. in 1818, and married Elizabeth Stahl; he bought a farm in Richland Township, where he resided until his death, Feb. 4, 1879; his widow resides on the homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Holloway have nine children, seven of whom are living, viz.: Albert A. and Alice O. (twins), born June 15, 1855; Elizabeth C., born Oct. 14, 1857; Flora I., born Jan. 21, 1860; Letina E., born Feb. 13, 1862; John U. S., born Jan. 26, 1864; Edith M., born Oct. 8, 1867. Mr. Holloway served four months in the late rebellion; has been Township Clerk one year; Constable three years; School Director twenty-one years, and has taught school thirty years; four of his family are now teaching, and he is Justice of the Peace, and has served since Feb. 12, 1877.

DAVID LYON, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 9; P. O. Dawn; was born in Preble Co., Ohio, Dec. 15, 1814; his father, David Lyon, Sr., was born in Rocking-



ham Co., Va., and *his* father was born in England, and in an early day emigrated to Virginia, but he started to return to England to secure a legacy, but was never heard from after; David Lyon, Sr., was bound out after his father left, until he was 21; in 1807, he married Susan Black, and in 1808 moved to Preble Co., Ohio, and was drafted, and served six months in the war of 1812; his wife died in April, 1846; they had ten children, six boys and four girls; he afterward married Rachael Rider (in 1850); he died in August, 1850. David, the subject of this sketch, remained at home with his parents until he was 22; he then married Catherine Grissom; she was born Nov. 4, 1813; they had three children, viz., Jacob, born Aug. 31, 1837; Susan, Feb. 25, 1840; Milton, Nov. 23, 1842; his wife died April 12, 1847; he then united in marriage with Mary Link, Oct. 22, 1847; she was born in Virginia in September, 1820; by this union were eight children, viz.: David Link, born July 23, 1848; Emily, Feb. 26, 1850; Mary Ann, Jan. 7, 1853; William Henry and Sarah Jane (twins), May 30, 1855; Isabelle, June 8, 1858; John Calvin, Nov. 22, 1860; Barbara E., Aug. 1, 1865. The subject of this sketch started in life without a dollar in the world; he now owns 200 acres of good land, and has helped his children to land.

SAMUEL WILSON farmer and stock-raiser. Sec. 16; P. O. Dawn; was born Feb. 21, 1829; Samuel Wilson, Sr., his father, lived in Greenville Township, Darke Co., and married Mary Frances Stoner in June 1829, whose father was killed by the Indians; Samuel Wilson, Sr., was drowned in Greenville Creek; his wife died in the year 1831. The subject of this sketch lived with his parents until their death; after that, he was compelled to go among strangers, and worked for 25 cents per day, until the age of 18, when he apprenticed himself to Orrin Culbertson as a carpenter, for \$5 per month, until the year 1852, when he took contracts for himself. In the year 1853, he married Mary E. Eyler; Jacob Eyler, her father was a native of Maryland; he married Rachael Sataup; they moved to Darke Co., Ohio, in 1848, where they now reside. The subject of this sketch owns one quarter-section of land, well improved, and, in the year 1877, erected a handsome brick residence, and built a fine bank barn in 1879; they had eight children, viz.: Cynthia H., born May 10, 1854; William J., March 20, 1856; Minerva J., June 13, 1860; Iola Bell, Nov. 25, 1864; Ida May, Dec. 27, 1870; Edith Gertrude, Dec. 16, 1873; Minnie Blanch, April 8, 1877. The subject of this sketch served as Treasurer in York Township, Darke Co., four years, Trustee one year, and in 1879, was elected County Commissioner for Darke County, for the term of three years.

## WABASH TOWNSHIP.

JOHN C. BURNS, farmer and teacher, Sec. 11; P. O. North Star; a son of Abraham and Elizabeth Burns; was born in Richland Township, Darke Co., Sept. 25, 1842; his parents settled on Sec. 9. of Richland Township, in 1823. Was united in marriage with Sarah E. Templeton in Greenville, Darke Co., Aug. 9, 1866; they have four children—Atta, Lulu, Cary F. and James H.

HENRY J. BURNS, farmer, Sec. 3; P. O. North Star; a son of Henry and Sarah (Oliver) Burns; was born in York Township, this county, July 5, 1848.

JOHN H. CAMPBELL, merchant; P. O. North Star; a son of D. C. and Mary (Starr) Campbell; was born in Jamestown, Greene Co., Ohio Aug. 8, 1847, and settled in this county with his parents in 1850. Was married to Miranda Riegel at North Star April 3, 1870; she was born Jan. 5, 1852; three children—Mary T., born Dec. 31, 1870; Dora D., born Aug. 31, 1875; James T., born Dec. 19, 1878.





**BENJAMIN F. GILBERT**, manufacturer of tile ; P. O. North Star ; son of Benjamin and Jane (Lutz) Gilbert ; was born in Miami Co., March 11, 1838 ; came to this county with his parents in 1840 and settled in Adams Township. Was married in York Township, Sept. 7, 1866, to Hulda Grissom, born Jan. 25, 1845 ; four children—Ida May, Lucy Belle, Mary Jane ; Carlin, died Oct. 13, 1876.

**ABSALOM PEARSON**, Physician and Surgeon ; North Star ; son of Isaac and Mary (Pemberton) Pearson ; was born in Miami Co., Ohio, Jan. 11, 1838, and came to this county Sept. 1, 1871. Married Eliza A. Oaks in Troy, Ohio, Nov. 13, 1859 ; children—Mary Luella, born Sept. 8, 1860 ; Samuel Alvard, born Jan. 14, 1863 ; Daisy Viola, born Oct. 11, 1874 ; Mazy Idella, born Nov. 13, 1876.

**ISAAC N. MEDFORD**, teacher, Sec. 5 ; North Star. The subject of this sketch was born in Licking Co., Ohio, Dec. 24, 1845, and is the son of James and Sarah (Miller) Medford ; his father was born in Virginia in 1802 and died in 1861 ; his mother was born in 1812 and died in 1868. Mr. Isaac Medford came into this county with his parents in the spring of 1846 and settled in York Township. He enlisted in the 152d O. N. G. May 2, 1864 ; he then re-enlisted in the 187th O. V. I. Feb. 11, 1865, and was mustered out of the service at Macon, Ga., Jan. 20, 1866. Mr. Medford was joined in the holy bonds of wedlock to Miss Annie Wagner in September, 1876, in Darke Co. ; his wife was born in Mercer County, Feb. 18, 1858. He is a Republican in politics, and has been Justice of the Peace for two years, which office he now holds.

## MISSISSINAWA TOWNSHIP.

**JOSEPH DENNISTON**, farmer ; P. O. Union City, Ind. ; son of Samuel and Sarah Denniston ; he was born in Jackson Township of this county, Feb. 7, 1836 ; the parents of Mr. D., settled in this county as early as 1807, and may be truthfully termed "early pioneers." Mr. Denniston was married to Anna Money, in Jay Co., Ind., Sept. 28, 1858 ; they have nine children, namely, Sarah J., Senath E., William C. L., Mary Olive, Azore C., David L., Nancy E., Frederick and Joseph Roland. Mr. Denniston's farm of 268 acres is located in Sec. 28, 29 and 32, of this township, 180 acres of which are under cultivation ; his residence, built February, 1869, is located on Sec. 29.

**HARVEY HILL**, Justice of the Peace and Township Clerk ; P. O. Rose Hill ; son of Nathan and Mary Ann Hill, was born near Batavia, Clermont Co., Ohio, June 15, 1838 ; he came to this township with his parents Oct. 1, 1854, and settled on Sec. 20, on land that his father occupied during his life, and now owned and occupied by our subject ; at the time this family settled here, the township was almost an unbroken wilderness, the woods abounding in nearly all kinds of game ; deer and the wild turkey abounded on every hand ; these early settlers were subject to the privations and hardships of pioneer life ; but the intervening years have brought about a happy change, and to-day this portion of the county is as promising as any in Western Ohio. Mr. Hill was united in marriage with Martha E. Matthews, of this county, Nov. 17, 1873 ; they have two children, to wit : William Jesse and Amy Grace.

**JOHN MILLIGAN**, farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 32 ; P. O. Union City. Was born in Perry Co., Penn. ; he came West with his parents and settled in Shelby Co. ; from there they moved to Randolph Co., Ind. ; he came to Darke Co. in 1862, and settled on his father-in-law's farm, in Sec. 32, Mississinawa Township ; he then moved near Union City, and lived two years, then moved on to his present farm in 1868. He married Miss Romainah Carter June 29, 1850 ; she was born in Hamilton Co., Ohio ; twelve children have been the fruit of this union.





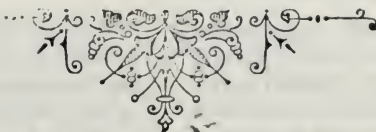
seven of whom are now living, viz., Emeretta, Marguretha, Mary C., William F., Sarah P., John W. and Ella K. Mr. Milligan owns 120 acres of fine land, which is situated in Secs. 28 and 32; he has been Township Trustee for twelve years, which office he now holds; he has taken an active part in religion for the last six years, and is a member of the Methodist Church.

GEORGE W. REICHARD, Sec. 8; P. O. Rose Hill; is the son of Israel and Sarah (Garland) Reichard; Israel Reichard was born in Preble Co. Ohio; Sarah Reichard, his mother, was born in Tennessee; George W. Reichard was born May 26, 1851; he is a carpenter by trade, and works at his trade in summer and at coopering in the winter; he is still unmarried.

DAVID SMITH, farmer, Sec. 31; P. O. Union City. The subject of this sketch was born in Clermont County, Ohio, April 8, 1809; he followed milling for about eight years before coming to this county, Oct. 3, 1847, since which time he has devoted his attention principally to agriculture. He was married Dec. 27, 1827, in Clermont County, to Julia A. Riley; she was born in New Jersey; the fruit of this union has been nine children, viz., Peter, Simon, Levi, Elisha B., John Z., James, Phœbe, Elizabeth A. and Eliza O. Mr. Smith held the office of Township Treasurer for the remarkable period of twenty-two years in succession, and has had a surfeit of minor offices. He has a fine farm of 80 acres.

DANIEL SNYDER, harness-maker and farmer, Sec. 14; P. O. Rose Hill. The subject of this sketch was born Jan. 20, 1842, in this township; he is the son of John K. and Amy (Hidley) Snyder; John K. Snyder was born in New Jersey, and died in this township in July, 1849; Amy Snyder was born in New Jersey, and is now married a second time; Daniel Snyder's parents settled in this township in 1839. Mr. Snyder was married Oct. 31, 1869, to Miss Lydia I. Winterrowd; she was born in this township; the fruits of this union have been five children, viz., Rolla W., James H., Amy J., Sallie and Clifford. He owns 40 acres of land in this township, which is under a good state of cultivation. He enlisted in the 187th O. V. I. February, 1865, and was mustered out at Macon, Ga., Jan. 20, 1866; is a good strong Democrat, and is serving his third term as Township Treasurer.

EDWARD LAWRENCE WELBOURN, physician, Union City; son of George Welbourn and Jane Lawrence; was born in Marion County, Ohio, Jan. 11, 1843. Mr. Welbourn graduated at the Eclectic Medical College of Pennsylvania, Jan. 25, 1866, and began the practice of medicine at Union City, Ind., March 31 of the same year; from the first, his practice was a grand success, and he made money rapidly, but owing to failing health he purchased a farm on Sec. 20 the next year, and turned his attention to farming and experiments in organic chemistry; in the spring of 1870, he began the manufacture of a chemical antidote for rheumatism, and has been so successful in its introduction that it is known from Maine on the east to the Pacific Coast on the west; at the same time the Doctor has an office practice one day each week at Union City, which he intends to continue in the future. The Doctor was married to Martha Levina Jones, of Harrison Township, Jan. 1, 1866. Two children were born to them, namely, Ulysses Edward Alaska and Oclaseo Carlos; Mrs. Welbourn departed this life Oct. 23, 1879.





# BUSINESS REFERENCES.

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## GREENVILLE.

**Allen William** Attorney at Law.

**Allen & Devor**, Attorneys at Law  
M. T. Allen. John Devor.

**Anderson, C. M.**, Attorney at Law.

**Amann, Mrs.**, Restaurant.

**Baker Jacob**, Attorney at Law.

**Bachman, Chas.**, Merchant Tailor and Clothier, a large stock of Men's and Boy's Clothing constantly on hand, also Gent's Furnishing Goods. Broadway.

**Biltemeier & Martini**, Manufacturers and Dealers in Boots and Shoes, full line of best stock always on hand. 61 Broadway.

Charles Biltemeier. J. G. Martini.

**Bireley, W. J.**, Dealer in Lime. Fourth St.

**Blease, J. J.**, Manufacturer and Dealer in Boots and Shoes, a full and complete stock of fashionable goods, always on hand. 9 Third St.

**Blottman, B.**, Dealer in Groceries, Provisions, Queensware, Fruit and Country Produce, 15 Third St.

**Bornstein, H.**, Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Foreign and Domestic Liquors and Cigars. Pure Liquors for Medical purposes a speciality. 108 Broadway (opp. Turpen House).

**Breaden & Clark**, Attorneys at law.  
J. E. Breaden, Jr. J. C. Clark.

**Brewer, A. N.**, Manufacturer of and Dealer in all kinds of Harness, Blankets, Lap-Robes, Trunks and Valises, No. 28 East Third St.

**Buchwalter, L. M.**, Physician and Surgeon. Office in Odd Fellows' Block Third St., west of Broadway.

**Calderwood & Cole**, Attorneys at Law.

**Calkins, Chas.**, Attorney at Law.

**Calkins, H.**, Attorney at Law.

**Chenoweth, L. E.**, Attorney at Law.

**Conklin, F. T.**, Teller, Greenville Bank.

**Cox, J. W.**, Manufacturer of Boots and Shoes. Section 32.

**Deardourff, John M.**, Manufacturer and Dealer in Boots and Shoes, Third St., east of Broadway.

**Deeter, Josiah B.**, P. O. Woodington, Manufacturer of Drain Tile, three-fourths of a mile south of Woodington.

**Devor, John**, Attorney at Law.

**Devor Elijah**, Attorney at Law.

**Dill, W. H.**, Merchant, Postmaster and Justice of the Peace. Pikeville P. O.

**Ditman, J. N.**, Merchant Tailor Odd Fellows' Block.

**Eidson, F. M.**, Dealer in Foreign and Domestic Leather, Shoe Findings Etc., No. 18 West Water St.

**Exchange Bank, Greenville, Ohio**, South cor. Public Square. Receives Deposits, Makes Collections and does General Banking Business. John L. Winner, Propr.; Jas. M. Lansdowne, Cashier.





**Fertick, B. F.,** Proprietor of Saw-Mill. Near the old D. & U. Freight Depot.

**Gard, I. N.,** Physician and Surgeon.

**Glander, D.,** Brewer.

**Cordon, John V.,** Manufacturer of Spokes and Hubs.

**Corsuch, Wesley,** County Clerk.

**Greenville Agricultural works,** Manufacturers of and Dealers in Agricultural Implements. Special attention given to Repairing. Factory and Office on Martin St.

A. T. Rush.

W. H. Eby.

**Greenville Bank,** Hufnagle, Allen & Co. Capital, \$200,000; Officers, John Hufnagle, Prest.; Wm. Allen, Vice Prest.; L. L. Beel, Cashier; Ex. Com. Jas. T. Meeker, John Devor. John Hufnagle. Bank corner Broadway and Fourth St.

**Gregg Bros.,** Matchett's New Building. Dealers in Drugs, Medicines, Paints Oils, Varnishes, Books and Stationery, Pure Wines and Liquors for Medicinal use. Farmers and Physicians from the country will find our stock of Medicines complete, warranted genuine, and of the best quality.

**Cutheil, August,** Dealer in Imported and Domestic Wines, Liquors and Cigars, No. 82 Broadway.

**Hahn Amos,** County Treasurer.

**Hall, & Co.,** Importers of French Norman and Clydesdale Horses. Northeast side Public Square.

J. W. Hall, Harrod Mills, James Esty.

**Harper, John,** Photographer. A Specialty made of Copying and Enlarging Pictures by a new Solar Process.

**Helm, Noah F.,** Merchant.

**Henne, Daniel,** Dealer in Grain and Seeds. Warehouse corner of Walnut and Third Sts.

**Hime & Hall,** Livery, Feed and Sale Stable; Horses and Carriages supplied at short notice. Office and Stable Northeast corner of Public Square D. S. Hime, J. W. Hall.

**Huhn, Moses,** Popular Clothier and Merchant Tailor. Hats, Caps and Gents' Furnishing Goods. Merchant Tailoring a Specialty. 68 Broadway, next to National Bank.

**Hunt, Washington,** Milk Dealer.

**Jamison, D.,** Brick Manufacturer.

**Johnson, A. M.,** Photographer.

**Jones, Rev. Lewis E.,** Minister

**Judy, Swan,** Attorney at Law.

**Katzenberger, C. A. & Bro.,** Grocers. East Side of Public Square.

**Kemper, C. T.,** Catholic Priest.

**Kerlin, W. K.,** Ex-County Treasurer.

**Kester, Sol,** Dealer in Dry Goods, Clothing, Notions, etc., Ladies and Children's Shoes; Merchant Tailoring a Specialty. Broadway Store, formerly occupied by Wilson & Hart, Broadway.

**Kipp, Wm.,** Dealer in Pure Drugs and Chemicals. Paints, Oils, Varnishes and Brushes. Patent Medicines. Sponges, Shoulder Braces, Trusses, Fancy and Toilet Articles, Cigars and Tobacco, also Pure Wines and Liquors for Medical use; Prescriptions carefully filled. Broadway and Public Square.

**Klee, Albert, & Co.,** Butchers and Dealers in Fresh and Salt Meats, Third St.

**Klinger, A. J.,** Proprietor of the City Mills and Elevator, and Dealers in Grain and Seeds; Mill and Elevator on Martin St., near D. & U. R. R. Depot.

**Knoderer, Christian,** Butcher and Dealers in Fresh and Salt Meats; Third St., near Broadway.

**Knox & Sater,** Attorneys at Law. J. R. Knox. John W. Sater.

**Laurimore, M. W.,** City Marshal.

**Lecklider & Ullery,** Attorneys at Law.

**Limbirt, L. F.,** Attorney at Law and Notary Public. All business entrusted to him will be promptly attended to. Office, Anderson Building, opposite Turpen House, on Broadway.





- Limbert & Ratliff**, Attorneys at Law.
- Leas, Jacob E.**, Merchant.
- Longenecker, John**, Carpenter and Builder, Sec. 1.
- Ludy, Samuel**, Brick Manufacturer.
- Lynch, Elijah**, Physician and Surgeon.
- Lynch, I. H.**, Dealer in Gold and Silver Watches, Clocks, Fine Jewelry, Silverware, Gold Pens, Spectacles, Musical Instruments, Notions, etc., etc. Repairing of every description and Engraving done to order. All Work Warranted. Please call. 61 Broadway, next door to Kipp's Drug Store.
- McDaniel, M. & Son**, Manufacturers and Dealers in all kinds of Furniture. Store and Warerooms, corner Broadway and Fourth Sts.
- McGinnis, W.**, Contractor and Builder.
- Maher, P. H.**, County Recorder and Real Estate Agent.
- Martin, J. W.**, Merchant.
- Martin, J. H.**, County Clerk.
- Martz, J. T.**, Supt. of Public Schools.
- Matchett, W. H.**, Physician and Surgeon, Fourth St.
- Meeker, D. L.**, Judge of Court of Common Pleas.
- Miller, A. T.**, Architect.
- Mills, Harrod**, Dealer in Farm Machinery and Agricultural Implements, also Agent for the popular Buckeye Reaper and Mower, all the popular Breaking Plows, Walking Cultivators, Grain Drills, Corn Planters, etc.
- Moore & Winner**, Dry Goods Merchants, corner Broadway and Third st.
- O'Coners, John**, Carriage Manufacturer.
- Ollmetzer, Louis**, Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Liquor, 14 Main st.
- Otwell, L. S., Barton**, Physician and Surgeon.
- Otwell, E. W.**, Editor.
- Porter, Jacob M.**, Harness and Findings.
- Plessinger, Wallace**, Butcher and Dealer in Fresh and Salt Meats. Broadway.
- Perry, O. C.**, Ex-Auditor.
- Reed, William**, Proprietor of Reed's Saw-Mill, also Farmer, Sec. 16.
- Rehling, F.**, Dealer in Stoves, Tin and Hollow Ware, Roofing and Spouting, Plumbing, Gas and Steam Fitting, Pumps, Wood and Iron, Bath Tubs, Gas Fixtures, Wash Stands, Water Closets, Steam and Water Gauges, Iron and Lead Pipe, of all sizes, etc. All work warranted. 17 Third St.
- Requarth, Fred C.**, Dealer in all kinds of Building Brick; East Fourth Street.
- Roland, Chas.**, Editor.
- Runkel, Jerry**, Sheriff.
- Rush & Weills**, Carriage Manufacturers.
- Rush, W. D.**, Fire and Life Insurance Agent.
- Schwable, John H.**, Proprietor Turpen House Billiard Hall and Sample Room.
- Slenaker, H. J.**, Contractor and Builder, special attention given to the construction of Drains and Cisterns; Business solicited. 46, Fourth St.
- Smith, O. H.**, Dealer in Stoves, Tinware Roofing, Spouting and General Job Work, take in exchange Old Iron, Copper, Zinc, Rags, etc.; Third St., east of Broadway.
- Smith, A. J.**, Barber Shop, Third St., west of Broadway.
- St. Clair & Co., Henry**, Dealers in Groceries and Produce, 110 Broadway.
- Steinle, J.**, Manufacturer and Dealer in Cigars and Tobacco, Wholesale and Retail; a full line of Smokers' Articles constantly in stock; West Side Public Square.
- Stephens, John**, Blacksmith.
- Turner Bros.**, Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Foreign and Domestic Liquors, Wines and Cigars, etc. A quiet and retired Sample Room in the rear of the Wholesale Department, 31 Third St.



**Turpen, Wm. V.,** Proprietor Turpen House.

**Turpen, John C.,** County Auditor.

**Turpen, T. P.,** Hotel.

**Todd, W. J.,** Livery and Sale Stable. Third St.

**Troxell, J. W.,** Dealer in Lumber.

**Voelkle, E. H.,** Carriage and Wagon Manufacturer.

**Wagner, Jacob,** Proprietor Wagner House. Large Sample Rooms on the first floor; Bath Room attached to the House; also Feed and Sale Stable connected with the same.

**Webb, Henry A.,** Dealer in Fancy Articles, Confectionery and General Assortment of Cigars and Tobacco; also engaged in Portrait Painting.

**Webster, N. B.,** Dealer in Groceries, Provisions and Country Produce; Fourth St., near Post Office.

**Weills, Herman,** Manufacturer of Carriages, Buggies and Spring Wagons; special attention paid to Repairing. Shop corner Third and Walnut Sts.

**Winklebleck, & Co.,** Contractors in Supplies for P. C. & St. L. R. R., and Dealers in Timber, Wood, Bituminous and Anthracite Coal. Office, Martin St. A. Winklebleck, B. Johnson.

**Youart & Bro.,** Ice Dealers. Furnish Ice in any quantity. Residence and Ice House  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of Greenville, on the Milton Pike. W. H. Youart. S. Youart.

**Zimmerman & Crubbs,** Dealers in all kinds of Grain and Seeds. D. Zimmerman. D. Grubbs.

### MISSISSINAWA TOWNSHIP.

**Hill, Harvey,** Justice of the Peace. Township Clerk, and Farmer, Sec. 20; P. O. Rose Hill.

**Richard, C. W.,** Cooper and Carpenter, Sec. 8, P. O. Rose Hill.

**Snyder, Daniel,** Harness Maker, Sec. 14, P. O. Rose Hill.

**Welbourn, E. S.,** Physician and Farmer, Sec. 20, P. O. Union City, Ind.

### RICHLAND TOWNSHIP.

**Collins, S. S.,** Wagon Maker and Farmer, Sec. 20, Dawn P. O.

**Dawson, O. F.,** Manufacturer of Drain Tile, Sec. 20, Dawn P. O.

**Duckwall, J. W.,** Merchant, P. O. Dawn.

**McFarland, James,** Blacksmith, Sec. 20, P. O. Dawn.

**McFarland, Isaac,** Carriage-Maker P. O. Dawn.

**Morrison, Robert A.,** Physician. Sec. 32, P. O. Beamsville.

**Werts, J. B.,** Merchant, Sec. 20, P. O. Dawn.

### MONROE TOWNSHIP.

**Cassel, William,** Minister, Sec. 4, P. O. Arcanum.

**Hunt, Abraham,** Blacksmith, Sec. 4, P. O. Laura, Miami Co.

**Niswonger, David W.,** Carpenter. Sec. 7, P. O. Arcanum.

**Stutsman, Jesse,** Minister and Farmer, Sec. 1, P. O. Arcanum.

### JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

UNION CITY P. O.

**Archard, Wm.,** County Commissioner.

**Eichelberger, Jos.,** Justice of the Peace and Farmer, Sec. 15.

**Evans, B. W.,** Physician and Farmer. Sec. 3.

**Fahenstock, J. H.,** Physician and Surgeon, Office and Residence. Sec. 21, near Buck Horn Saw-Mill.

**Hunchbarger, Jacob,** Merchant and Blacksmith, Sec. 14.

**Sigler, D. W.,** Prop. Buck Horn Saw-Mill, Sec. 21.

**Snook, J. H.,** Manufacturer of Brick, Drain Tile and Wagon Stock, Union City.

**Wenrich, Thos. B.,** Minister and Farmer, Union City.

**Young, Solomon,** Grain Dealer. Union City.





**BROWN TOWNSHIP, ANSONIA P. O.**

**Anderson, L. C.,** Physician and Surgeon.

**Ansonia Stave Company,** Manufacturers of Slack and Tight Barrel Staves and Headings, also Crimped and Coiled Patent Hoops. J. H. Roush, Will A. Roush, Chas. A. Roush.

**Bertz, Schlemmer & Co.,** Dealers in Hardware, Stoves, Tinware, etc. Also Agricultural Implements, such as Threshing, Reaping and Mowing Machines, Wagons, Corn Cultivators, and Breaking Plows, Pumps, Windmills, etc., etc. Corner of Main and Canal Sts. George Bertz, Henry Schlemmer, Wm. Baughman.

**Carver, L. C.,** Bakery, Confectionery, and Restaurant. Also dealer in Choice Family Groceries, Provisions, Glass, Queensware and Notions. Special inducements to Cash buyers.

**Hager, O. J.,** Contractor and Builder.

**Hostetter, S. A. & T. J.,** Dealers in Drugs, Medicines and Chemicals, Perfumery, Soaps, Combs and Brushes, Trusses, Supporters, Shoulder Braces, Fancy and Toilet Articles, Books and Stationery, Kerosene Oil, Lamps and Chimneys, Grass and Garden Seeds, Glass, Putty, Paints, Oils, Varnishes and Dye Stuffs, Pure Wines and Liquors for Medicinal purposes, Patent Medicines, etc.

**Hulse, G. C.,** Grain Merchant.

**Hunter, D. F.,** Carriage Manufacturer, Blacksmith, and dealer in Agricultural Implements.

**Miller, Henry E.,** Proprietor of Miller's Hotel.

**Miller, I. E.,** Justice of the Peace and Farmer, Sec. 30.

**Rifle, Silas,** Contractor and Builder.

**Roush & Son,** Dealers in Grain and Seeds. J. H. Roush, J. A. Roush.

**Royer, John S.,** Teacher.

**Tullis, F. M.,** Manufacturer of Drain Tile.

**White & Co.,** General Merchants.

Dealers in Dry Good, Clothing, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Groceries and Provisions etc. T. B. White, James S. Webster.

**TWIN TOWNSHIP.**

**Bish, I.,** Grain and Tobacco Dealer. Arcanum. P. O.

**Bristly, H. C.,** Carpenter and Farmer, Sec. 2; P. O. Arcanum.

**Clark, John D.,** Merchant. Arcanum.

**Cline, Michael,** Cooper. Arcanum.

**Coons, Philip,** General Merchant. Arcanum.

**Fasig, John,** Merchant, Ithaca. P. O.

**Hamilton, J. C.,** Physician.

**Harsh, D. A.,** Dealer in Choice Groceries and Provisions; a full line of the best Teas, Coffees, Spices, Sugars and Syrup, Queensware, Glassware, Tobacco, Cigars, Notions, etc.; Highest Prices paid for Produce, Arcanum.

**Ivester, George,** Milling, etc., Arcanum.

**Jackson, B. C.,** Teacher and Farmer, Arcanum.

**Kepner, H. A.,** Merchant.

**Kraus & Clark,** Dealers in Dry Goods, Notions, Clothing, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, etc.; also Grain and Country Produce.

**Ozias, B. F.,** Freight and Ticket Agent of the D. & U. R. R., Arcanum.

**Parks, J. W.,** Teacher and Farmer, Arcanum.

**Ratliff, John R.,** Harness Manufacturer. Arcanum.

**Smith, John,** Dealer in Dry Goods, Boots, Shoes, Clothing, Groceries and Provisions; also Dealer in Grain, etc., etc., Arcanum.

**Smith, A. F.,** Drugs and Medicines; Prescriptions carefully compounded; also Dealer in Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Shoulder Braces and Trusses; also finest variety of Wines and Liquors; also Freiberg Bros., Rye Whisky and Rock Candy, Arcanum.

**Smith, W. M.,** Dealer in all kinds of Grain, Meal, Live Stock and Tobacco, Southwest corner of Main and South Sts., Arcanum.





**Thomas, J. L.,** Hotel, Arcanum.

**Thomas, C. M.,** Carpenter, Arcanum.

**Wallace & Flory,** Dealers in Hardware, Stoves, Tinware and Agricultural Implements, Arcanum.

**Wild, Martin,** Clerk of Twin Township, Arcanum.

### VERSAILLES.

**Burns, Thomas A.** Attorney at Law.

**Dabe, Prosper,** Proprietor of the Commercial Elevator; also dealer in Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley and Rye; Salt for sale.

**Dunkel, A. M.,** Meat Market.

**Fackler, John E.,** Physician.

**Gordon, J. P.,** Physician.

**Hess, John,** Telegraph Operator, Express and Railroad Agent.

**Hollis, G. W.,** Postmaster.

**Klipstine, L. C.,** Teacher and Farmer, Sec. 32; Webster P. O.

**Kusnick, Francis,** Banker and Druggist.

**Lehman, Lawrence L.,** Teacher.

**Marker, Leonard,** Furniture and Undertaker. Furniture at Lowest Prices. I am prepared to furnish, on short notice, latest styles of Burial Cases, Caskets and Wooden Coffins, either with or without Hearse. Call and examine my stock and prices. Main St., nearly opposite Brandon House.

**Murphy, Wm. H.,** Banker and Lumber Dealer.

**Rike, Wm. H.,** Physician.

**Seibt, A.,** Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots, Shoes, Hardware and Drugs, Webster P. O.

**Simons, J. S.,** "Star Clothing House." Dealer in Clothing, Boots and Shoes, Gents' Furnishing Goods, Hats and Caps.

**Stevenson, L. M.,** Teacher.

**Stover, W. H.,** Merchant.

**Studabacker,** Attorney at Law.

**Tillman, John C.,** Physician.

**Turpen, C. H.,** Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Notions, etc. Country Produce wanted.

**Turpen, A. H.,** Livery.

**Ward, J. T.,** Dealer in Groceries, Produce and Poultry.

**Williamson, J. C.,** Physician.

**Winbigler, J. J.,** Teacher.

**Worch, S.,** Hotel.

### HARRISON TOWNSHIP.

**Bacon, George,** Hardware Merchant, New Madison.

**Bloom, T. J.,** Miller, New Madison.

**French, W. W.,** Physician, Sec. 10, Hollandsburg P. O.

**Harter, Aaron,** Dealer in Groceries and Provisions, New Madison.

**Hill, Harvey,** Carpenter and Builder, Sec. 15, New Madison P. O.

**Lindner, Ferdinand,** Undertaker, Greenville P. O.

**Moore, Wilkins,** Justice of the Peace, Hollandsburg P. O.

**Noggle, Geo., N.,** Mayor, New Madison.

**Otwell, C. W. M.,** Physician, New Madison.

**Ross, Chas. C.,** Hotel, Greenville P. O.

**Rush, Clinton,** Hotel, New Madison.

**Swisher, R.,** Grain Dealer, New Madison.

**Thomas, J. H.,** Dentist, New Madison.

**Townsend, N.,** Dealer in Dry Goods, New Madison.

**Weaver, A.,** Physician, New Madison.

**White, Jane,** Hotel, Hollandsburg P. O.

**Williams, J. M.,** Physician, Hollandsburg P. O.

**Worch, E.,** Merchant Tailor, New Madison.

**Zeek, M.,** Edge Tool Maker, New Madison.



**ADAMS TOWNSHIP.**

**Brown, Henry,** Carpenter, Gettysburg.

**Coblentz, Mrs. Mary E.,** the Wonderful Healer and Clairvoyant. Thousands acknowledge Mrs. Coblentz an unparalleled success, and hundreds have been cured with her remedies. Bradford P. O.

**Cruea, E. O.,** Meat Market, Bradford.

**Cauby, Jacob F.,** Manufacturer of Brick and Drain Tile, Bradford.

**George, Wm. E.,** Gettysburg, Proprietor of Railroad House. Wholesale and Retail Dealer in all kinds of Grain, Field Seeds, Flour, Salt and Hogs. U. S. Express Agent, Ticket and Freight Agent of the P., C. & St. L. R. R. All communications by wire can be sent either to Bradford or Greenville.

**Harshey, Isaac, & Bro.,** Cabinet Makers and Undertakers, Gettysburg.

**Hershey, Emanuel,** Minister and Farmer, Sec. 28, Gettysburg.

**Lecklider, Wm. C.,** Merchant, Horatio.

**Martin & Vogt,** Grocers (Lecklider's old stand). They have the largest and most complete stock of Groceries ever brought to Gettysburg, and a complete stock of Choice Cigars, Smoking and Chewing Tobacco. Also a good variety of Notions and Hardware.

**Martin, J. M.,** Manufacturer and Dealer in Boots and Shoes, Gettysburg.

**Miller, P. B.,** Druggist, Gettysburg.

**Peiffer, Jacob,** Blacksmith, Gettysburg.

**Peiffer, Franklin,** Blacksmith, Gettysburg.

**Reck, Wm. L.,** Miller and Grain Dealer, Gettysburg.

**Reck, Jacob,** Grain Dealer, Horatio.

**Scott, John H.,** Plasterer, Bradford.

**Wenrich, David C.,** Dealer in Agricultural Implements, Bradford.

**Williams & Hunter,** Grain Dealers, Bradford.

A. P. Williams. J. A. Hunter.

**GERMAN TOWNSHIP,**

PALESTINE P. O.

**Calderwood, G. M.,** Physician and Surgeon.

**Kester, George,** Wagon Manufacturer.

**McCabe, James,** Lumber Manufacturer and Undertaker.

**McCabe & Smelker,** Undertakers.

**McClure, Ira,** Flouring-Mill.

**Putnam, David,** Attorney at Law; special attention given to collections.

**Rush, A. B.,** Physician and Surgeon, two miles south of Palestine.

**Sater, C. C.,** Physician and Surgeon.

**Tennell, J. B.,** Physician and Surgeon.

**BUTLER TOWNSHIP.**

**Coblentz, Harrison,** Justice of the Peace and Farmer, Sec. 21, New Madison P. O.

**Gilfillan, Robert,** Justice of the Peace and Farmer, Sec. 25, Castine P. O.

**Harter, Elem,** Carpenter, Sec. 7, New Madison P. O.

**Harter, Elias,** Blacksmith, Sec. 8, New Madison P. O.

**Minnich & Hamiel,** Castine, Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Notions, Ready-Made Clothing, Hardware, Queensware, Stationery, Tobacco and Cigars; highest prices paid for produce.

S. B. Minnich. J. W. Hamiel, Sr.

**WABASH TOWNSHIP.**

NORTH STAR P. O.

**Burns, John C.,** Teacher and Farmer, Sec. 11.

**Campbell, John H.,** Merchant.

**Gilbert, Benj. F.** Tile Manufacturer, Sec. 4.

**Medford, I. N.,** Teacher, Sec. 5.

**Pearson, A.,** Physician and Surgeon.



# GENERAL TOWNSHIP

Wm. H. Smith, 1880-1881  
 J. H. Smith, 1881-1882  
 J. H. Smith, 1882-1883  
 J. H. Smith, 1883-1884  
 J. H. Smith, 1884-1885  
 J. H. Smith, 1885-1886  
 J. H. Smith, 1886-1887  
 J. H. Smith, 1887-1888  
 J. H. Smith, 1888-1889  
 J. H. Smith, 1889-1890  
 J. H. Smith, 1890-1891

# WEST TOWNSHIP

Wm. H. Smith, 1880-1881  
 J. H. Smith, 1881-1882  
 J. H. Smith, 1882-1883  
 J. H. Smith, 1883-1884  
 J. H. Smith, 1884-1885  
 J. H. Smith, 1885-1886  
 J. H. Smith, 1886-1887  
 J. H. Smith, 1887-1888  
 J. H. Smith, 1888-1889  
 J. H. Smith, 1889-1890  
 J. H. Smith, 1890-1891

# WEST TOWNSHIP

Wm. H. Smith, 1880-1881  
 J. H. Smith, 1881-1882  
 J. H. Smith, 1882-1883  
 J. H. Smith, 1883-1884  
 J. H. Smith, 1884-1885  
 J. H. Smith, 1885-1886  
 J. H. Smith, 1886-1887  
 J. H. Smith, 1887-1888  
 J. H. Smith, 1888-1889  
 J. H. Smith, 1889-1890  
 J. H. Smith, 1890-1891

# ADAMS TOWNSHIP

Wm. H. Smith, 1880-1881  
 J. H. Smith, 1881-1882  
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 J. H. Smith, 1888-1889  
 J. H. Smith, 1889-1890  
 J. H. Smith, 1890-1891

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP.**

**Allread, S. W.,** Merchant and Farmer, Delisle P. O.

**Briney, Christopher,** Justice of the Peace and Farmer, Sec. 28, Delisle P. O.

**Davis, William,** Carpenter, Sec. 34, Arcanum P. O.

**Kelsey, Wm.,** Manufacturer of Drain Tile, Sec. 21, Arcanum P. O.

**Marker, George,** Gun Maker and Farmer, Sec. 2, Gettysburg P. O.

**Poyner, John H.,** Manufacturer of Drain Tile, Sec. 23, Arcanum P. O.

**NEAVE TOWNSHIP.**

**Miller, George D.,** County Commissioner and Farmer, Sec. 16, Greenville P. O.

**Schlechty, Geo.,** Justice of the Peace and Farmer, Sec. 33, Weaver's Station P. O.

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.**

**Creviston, J. B.,** School Teacher, Sec. 4, Hill Grove P. O.

**Huffer, Aaron,** Manufacturer of Drain Tile and Farmer, Sec. 2, Hill Grove P. O.

**McNeil, James,** Merchant, Sec. 34, Darke P. O.

**Morrison, J. N.,** Justice of the Peace, Section 4, Hill Grove P. O.

**Teal, Thos. E.,** Postmaster, Hill Grove P. O.

**White, Capt. Jas. M.,** School Teacher and Farmer, Mt. Heron P. O.

**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP.**

**Groff, Joseph,** Minister. Painter Creek, P. O.

**Hyer, Jesse,** Carriage Manufacturer and Undertaker, Painter Creek P. O.

**Parson, Nathan S.,** Merchant, Red River P. O.

**Weills, Solomon,** Minister, Sec. 20, Painter Creek P. O.

**Wright, Geo. W.,** Postmaster, and Dealer in General Merchandise, Painter Creek.

**YORK TOWNSHIP.**

**Holloway, Jackson,** School Teacher and Farmer, Sec. 8, Dawn P. O.

**PATTERSON TOWNSHIP.**

**Greer, S. A.,** Physician, Sec. 20 Willow Dell P. O.

**WAYNE TOWNSHIP.**

**Seibt, A.,** Dealer in Dry Goods. Groceries, Boots, Shoes, Hardware and Drugs, Webster P. O.

**Klipstine, L. C.,** Teacher and Farmer, Sec. 32, Webster, P. O.



NEW BUCKEY TOWNSHIP  
 1852  
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